

OrdnanceReports

News updates from around the world



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This publication is produced by the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps Communications Coordinator. The purpose of this publication is to provide Command Information materiel concerning world events and the U.S. military's role in those events. Ordnance specific events will be covered if appropriate. Direct your correspondence to Ed Starnes at 410-278-2415 (DSN 298-2415), or email edward.starnes@ocs.apg.army.mil.

Dateline, NBC TV, August 1, 2003

Ambush: The story of the 507th

STONE PHILLIPS: What images from the war in Iraq have stuck in your mind? Baghdad lit up by American bombs? The Special Forces rescue of Private Jessica Lynch? The toppling of Saddam's statue?

All memorable. But in the first days of the war these were the pictures that stopped Americans in their tracks. (Video footage of American POWs being interviewed, broadcast on Arab television) Tonight, for the first time together, five former prisoners of war who were captured with Jessica Lynch tell the story of their ambush, their time in captivity and their rescue.

You've probably heard they were members of an Army maintenance company, support personnel who missed a turn and found themselves behind enemy lines. You're about to hear just how hard those soldiers fought for their own lives and for each other.

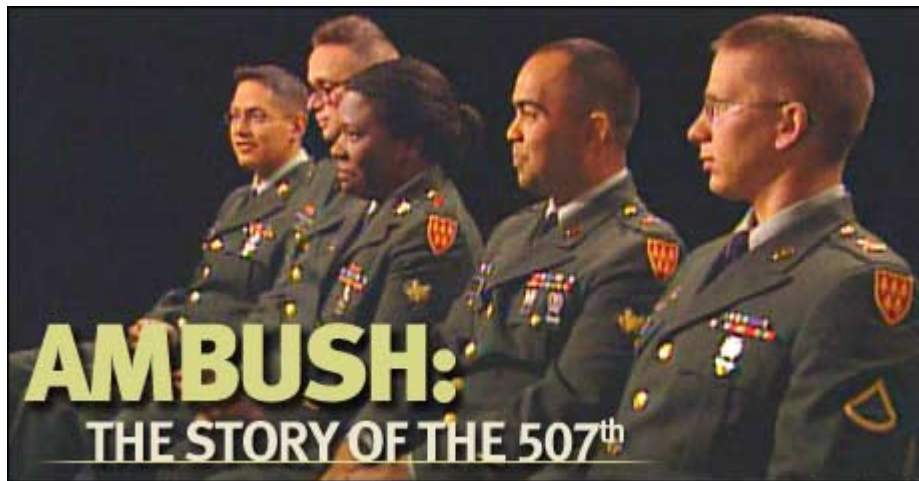
(Voiceover) The bombs had been falling for four days when suddenly, on a Sunday morning, the shock and awe of the US onslaught gave way to these images. America woke up to the reality of the war.

(Baghdad being bombed; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of wounded Edgar Hernandez)

Specialist EDGAR HERNANDEZ: (From Al Jazeera TV) My name is Edgar from United States.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Five GI's from Fort Bliss, Texas, in the hands of the enemy, their names and faces broadcast around the world.

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Hernandez being interviewed; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of James Riley being interviewed; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Patrick Miller being interviewed)



Dateline NBC

Specialist JOSEPH HUDSON: (From Al Jazeera TV) Specialist Joseph Hudson.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) One of them a woman.

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Shoshana Johnson being interviewed)

Specialist SHOSHANA JOHNSON: (From

Al Jazeera TV) Shana.

Offscreen Voice #1: (From Al Jazeera TV) Shana?

Spc. JOHNSON: (From Al Jazeera TV) Yes.

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U.S. Army
NEWS RELEASE
Army Public Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20310

**ARMY RELEASES REPORT ON THE
ATTACK ON THE 507TH
MAINTENANCE COMPANY**

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PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Her eyes seemed to tell the story.

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Johnson being interviewed)

Spc. JOHNSON: (From Al Jazeera

TV) Texas.

(To reporter) It's amazing that we're alive, even now. I'm just grateful to be here.

P H I L L I P S :

(Voiceover) It's easy to understand why she feels that way. Though Specialist Shoshana Johnson was badly wounded in the rolling ambush, 11 other members of her convoy died.

(Johnson talking to reporter; US Army truck being towed)

Private First Class PATRICK MILLER: I'd see the bullets bouncing off the hood, rounds rattling off the metal.



P H I L L I P S :

(Voiceover) And after the battle, even then they wondered if they'd live.

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of captured military equipment)

Spc. HERNANDEZ: I thought they were going to shoot me dead right there on the spot.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) How different they look today, sitting in front of television cameras again, this time by choice. Shoulder to shoulder, a team.

The highest-ranking of the group, 31-year-old Sergeant James Riley, a machinist. Private First Class Patrick Miller, a welder and father of two. The youngest, Edgar Hernandez, a supply specialist, just 21 years old. Specialist Joe Hudson, a mechanic, married, with a daughter. And specialist Shoshana Johnson, a single mother from an Army family who joined up and became a cook.

(Soldiers talking to reporter; photo of Riley; Riley talking to reporter; photo of Miller; Miller talking to reporter; photo of Hernandez; Hernandez talking to reporter; photo of Joseph Hudson; Hudson talking to reporter; photo of Johnson; Johnson talking to reporter)

PHILLIPS: You deployed from Fort Bliss back in February. Did you expect that you were going to find yourselves face-to-face with the enemy?

Spc. HUDSON: Not the magnitude. I mean, we're maintenance. We're in the rear with the gear.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) The soldiers of the 507th had all been through basic training, but they were not supposed to be front-line combatants. Their job: to support Patriot missile batteries, providing supplies, maintaining vehicles.

(Fort Bliss; 507th flag; soldiers marching; heavy military equipment; soldiers and trucks)

PHILLIPS: So when the war started, the 507th rolled into Iraq in these vehicles: five-ton wreckers, big tractor-trailers, fuel tankers. Hard to maneuver, no armor. Not designed to engage the enemy or withstand the kind of withering fire these soldiers would eventually face.

(Voiceover) They took their place at the tail end of a fast-moving offensive, a massive strike force. Tens of thousands of troops, thousands of vehicles, bound for Baghdad.

(Army convoy)

Sergeant JAMES RILEY: Moved out at—that night. There was four or five, six lanes of traffic, headlights as far as you could see behind you, and taillights as far as you could see in front of you.

(Voiceover) Trucks, tanks, you name it.

(Army convoy)

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Speed was a big part of the battle plan. A big problem early on: the soft sands of the Iraqi desert.

(Army convoy)

PHILLIPS: You had been on the move about 50 hours when a portion of the 507th—your portion—fell behind. What was happening?

Spc. HUDSON: Vehicles were getting stuck. Everything would get



bogged down. Soft sand, heavy trucks. It doesn't match.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Keeping other vehicles up and running was part of the 507th's job. At the wheel of the unit's big wrecker, Joe Hudson had his

hands full.

(Army convoy; photo of Hudson)

PHILLIPS: So you pull the trucks out when they get stuck?

Spc. HUDSON: Dang right. Eighteen—eighteen recovery missions in one night.

PHILLIPS: Eighteen in one night?

Spc. HUDSON: One night. Every you go there was a truck that was stuck.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) But tending to those other vehicles caused the 507th to split—half keeping pace with the 3rd Infantry, the rest left to catch up as best they could. In this group, 33 soldiers including Private Jessica Lynch, whose truck had broken down, forcing her to grab a ride in a humvee with the unit's first sergeant.



The route laid out before the war skirted urban areas, including the strongly-defended town of An Nasiriyah on the banks of the Euphrates River.

(Army convoy; photo of Jessica Lynch; Army convoy; map showing route)

PHILLIPS: To keep the lagging convoy on track, the 507th's commander, Captain Troy King, relied on a map and a small global positioning system—a little GPS—hand-held, like this one. But the system was not foolproof. So at critical turns along the route northward, the Army set up traffic control points where a soldier would literally stand in the road and direct traffic. But King and his soldiers were so many hours behind the main convoy that the traffic control point that had been steering trucks around An Nasiriyah was no longer manned. Missing that turn would prove deadly.

(Voiceover) Another important factor, according to the Army, was that Captain King was never clear on the route he was supposed to

take. Instead of turning left to follow the main convoy, he continued straight, past a contingent of Marines preparing to attack An Nasiriyah, and unknowingly into harm's way.

(Army convoy; photo of Troy King; map showing routes taken by main convoy and 507th contingent; Army convoy)

PHILLIPS: As you approached An Nasiriyah, could you see lights ahead?

Spc. JOHNSON: Mm-hmm.

Sgt. RILEY: Mm-hmm.

Spc. HUDSON: Yes.

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes.

Spc. HUDSON: I thought it was the convoy in front of us, that we were catching up to them. All of sudden buildings, they started popping up everywhere. And it's like, 'Wow, we're in a town.' And the only thing that's running through my mind, 'I hope this is a friendly town.'

(Voiceover)

(Aerial photo of An Nasiriyah)

PHILLIPS: Did you see Iraqis?

Sgt. RILEY: Oh, yeah.

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes.

PHILLIPS: Armed Iraqis?

Spc. JOHNSON: Mm-hmm.

PHILLIPS: And what happened?

Spc. HUDSON: They waved.

Spc. JOHNSON: They waved.

Sgt. RILEY: They waved.

Pfc. MILLER: They waved.

PHILLIPS: They waved to you.



Pfc. MILLER: Right.

Sgt. RILEY: Mm-hmm.

PHILLIPS: Nobody raised a weapon.

Sgt. RILEY: No hostile intent.

Spc. JOHNSON: No intent.

PHILLIPS: Did that strike any of you as unusual?

Spc. HUDSON: We passed them, they're waving at us. I'm like, 'You know, something's—doesn't feel right.' I mean, these are uniform Iraqi soldiers.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) But believing this road was secure, that thousands of US vehicles had already gone through, it seemed that the Iraqi soldiers might have surrendered. And the fact that they were armed didn't necessarily mean that they were a threat.

(An Nasiriyah; military trucks driving through town; Iraqi soldiers)

Spc. JOHNSON: Got to remember that the briefings that we'd been given already for that—the rules of engagement, the surrender procedures—they were allowed to keep their weapons when they surrendered—the officers were. And they'd be in little groups, and we weren't supposed to mess with them.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) So the 507th kept going, past a second Iraqi checkpoint.

Did you stop at these checkpoints or did you roll on through?

(Army convoy; Iraqi soldiers)

Offscreen Voice #2: (Voiceover) Just kept going.

(Iraqi soldiers)

Offscreen Voice #3: (Voiceover) Rolled on.

(Iraqi soldiers)

Offscreen Voice #4: (Voiceover) Driving through.

(Iraqi soldiers)

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) But when they reached the other side of town, Captain King realized they were off course and too far away

from the main convoy to make radio contact. As they stopped to turn around, the soldiers noticed they were becoming the object of increasing Iraqi attention.

(Aerial view of An Nasiriyah; Iraqi soldiers)

Pfc. MILLER: There were the same cars just driving back and forth, just 'Hey, what's going on here,' like they were scouting us or something.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) The 507th went on alert.

(Soldiers talking to reporter)

PHILLIPS: At that point, what was the order? What did you hear?



Spc. HUDSON: "Lock and load."

Sgt. RILEY: "Lock and load."

PHILLIPS: Thirty-three soldiers, 18 vehicles. Are you all pretty much together at this point?

Spc. HUDSON: We're still together at this point.

Spc. HERNANDEZ: Mm-hmm.

Sgt. RILEY: We're still together at this point.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Then, as the convoy began to retrace it's route, it came under fire.

(Army convoy; aerial view of An Nasiriyah)

Pfc. MILLER: That's when the first shots were fired.

Spc. HUDSON: That's where the first shots were fired. Just a—a small group of Iraqis on the side of the road shooting at us.

Sgt. RILEY: With a heavy machine gun.

PHILLIPS: And were your vehicles hit at that point?

Spc. HUDSON: Yes.

Sgt. RILEY: Oh, yeah.

PHILLIPS: You must have felt, 'Go, baby, go. I mean, I can't get the—the pedal to the metal fast enough.'

Spc. HUDSON: You're standing on top of your gas pedal like it's going go any faster, you know?



An Nasiriyah)

Sgt. RILEY: And this is where we start splitting up into different groups. Because you—you can't afford to sit there and wait while somebody else turns around. Can—you—you don't do that.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) As they made that second U-turn, three vehicles went down, the unit lost its first soldier, and the day would only get worse. The smaller, faster vehicles—including Captain King's—were out front. The bigger, slower rigs fell behind. The quiet town they had traveled through at dawn was now wide awake and bristling with guns. And as the convoy turned back down this road, all hell broke loose.

(Army convoy; aerial view of An Nasiriyah; Army convoy; An Nasiriyah; aerial view of An Nasiriyah)

Sgt. RILEY: We were getting lit up as we went around that corner.

Spc. HUDSON: Just, 'Pop, pop, pop, pop.' The rounds rattling off the metal.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) When we come back, the 507 fights for its life on the deadly day of the war for US Forces.

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of captured Army vehicles; medics assisting wounded soldier)

Unidentified Soldier: Hey, I need another doc!

Pfc. MILLER: But she looked like she was dead, like everybody else in the truck.

PHILLIPS: Didn't appear anybody had survived it.

Announcer: A wrong turns disastrous for Private Lynch and the rest of the 507th, when Ambush continues.

(Announcements)

Announcer: We now continue with Ambush: The Story of the 507th, a Stone Phillips Exclusive.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) The members of the 507th had been on the move with little sleep for two and half days. Suddenly, they were on

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Frantic to escape the enemy fire, get back through town and away, the convoy missed another turn, forcing it to double back once again.

(Army convoy; aerial view of

the wrong road at wrong time and at the wrong end of Iraqi guns.

(Army convoy; aerial view of An Nasiriyah)

Pfc. MILLER: They had a spot set up right there, just unloading on anything that turned at the corner.

(Aerial view of road intersection in An Nasiriyah)

PHILLIPS: Machine gunfire?

Pfc. MILLER: Yes.

PHILLIPS: Small weapon's fire?

Pfc. MILLER: Yeah.



PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Edgar Hernandez and Shana Johnson were in a five-ton tractor-trailer followed by Miller and Riley, then Joe Hudson in his 10-ton wrecker. Moving up the convoy was the humvee carrying

Jessica Lynch and four other soldiers.

(Photos of Hernandez, Johnson, Miller, Riley and Hudson; photo of Lynch)

PHILLIPS: What did you see as they passed you?

Spc. HUDSON: Machine gunfire. There was people firing at the humvee, and there was—everywhere you looked, somebody was firing.

PHILLIPS: And were they firing from out of the humvee?

Spc. HUDSON: There was return fire from the humvee. And they just—just—just disappeared in the distance.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Up ahead, specialists Hernandez and Johnson had their own problems. At the wheel of the huge rig, Hernandez was ducking beneath the dash board to dodge incoming fire. As he they tried to maneuver an Iraqi dump truck blocking their way, he veered off the road.

(Photos of Hernandez and Johnson; truck dashboard; truck driving)

Spc. HERNANDEZ: I got stuck in the mud.

Spc. JOHNSON: He jack-knifed.

PHILLIPS: The tractor portion was—was it still on the road?

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Spc. JOHNSON: Part of it. The end part of it.

Spc. HERNANDEZ: Part of it. And at the same time, we're getting hit from every directions.

Spc. JOHNSON: At that point my weapon was working. I was able to fire off a shot. I saw somebody in the tree line and I tried to take them out.

Spc. HERNANDEZ: And all of a sudden, somebody hit us from behind and the whole truck moved. I turned back and I saw the humvee.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) The speeding humvee had slammed into back of their jack-knifed tractor trailer.

(Truck driving; truck tires)

PHILLIPS: Did you feel the impact, Shana?

PHILLIPS: They hit the truck moving pretty fast.

Spc. HERNANDEZ: Yes.

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes.

Spc. HERNANDEZ: We jumped when they hit it.

Spc. JOHNSON: I felt it more than I heard it. And we didn't—we weren't sure what it was until Hernandez took a look back and saw what it was.

PHILLIPS: Did you know who was in the vehicle?

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes. I knew Lori was driving—first sergeant. I knew that Lynch was in the vehicle. I didn't know anybody else.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Private First Class Lori Piestewa was driving the humvee when she lost control after an explosion. In the back seat, her best friend in the unit, Jessica Lynch.

(Photo of Lori Piestewa; photo of Piestewa and Lynch)

Spc. JOHNSON: There was no movement whatsoever.

PHILLIPS: Do you remember what you thought when you saw her?

Spc. JOHNSON: Oh, heartbreak because there was—you just knew that they were all gone. But we had to keep going.

PHILLIPS: Captain King with five soldiers made it through the gauntlet of Iraqis and raced out of town to find help. The Marines they had passed going into An Nasiriyah were still there. They immediately made their way up the highway and rescued 10 members of the 507th who were stranded near their disabled vehicles and under fire. But the Marines could not rescue all of them.

Spc. HUDSON: At this point, I probably had four of my eight tires shot out by that time. There was just smoke just flying everywhere, rubber flying everywhere.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Enemy fire brought Joe Hudson's wrecker to a halt and killed the soldier sitting next to him, Chief Warrant Officer Johnny Mata. Hudson, himself wounded, was surrounded.

(Dashboard of truck; photo of Johnny Mata; truck)

Spc. HUDSON: They stopped firing and they came to the truck, opened the door and pulled me out.

PHILLIPS: And what did they do with you?

Spc. HUDSON: They threw me in back of a truck and went to—went to the An Nasiriyah headquarters.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Parading him like a trophy, he says, along the way.

At the rear of the convoy, James Riley and Patrick Miller were taking some of the heaviest fire.

(Hudson talking to reporter; desert; Riley and Miller

talking to reporter)

Pfc. MILLER: The truck was getting hit. I was ducking up under the dash, and popping up just to make sure I was still on the road. I could see the bullets bouncing off the roof—the hood.

PHILLIPS: And the sounds? What did you hear?

Spc. HUDSON: Just, 'Pop, pop, pop, pop.' Just rounds rattling off the metal. And I seen one guy jump out in the road and aim at me, and I ended up hitting him.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Miller says at this point, the truck's transmission had been shot out.

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(Truck dashboard)

Pfc. MILLER: I'm just steadily losing speed.

PHILLIPS: So you were basically coasting to a stop.

Pfc. MILLER: Pretty much.

PHILLIPS: Even as you took fire.

Pfc. MILLER: Yes.

Sgt. RILEY: We got out on foot. He was in front of me, and he runs lot faster than me. Getting shot at will make you run faster. And he takes off, and I'm right behind him going fast as I can trying to get to cover.

PHILLIPS: Were they shooting at you...

Sgt. RILEY: Oh, yeah.

PHILLIPS:as you moved down that road?

Sgt. RILEY: Oh, yeah. You could hear bullets winging by your head and impacting on the concrete around us.

PHILLIPS: How'd you make it down there alive?

Pfc. MILLER: I have no idea.

Sgt. RILEY: I have no idea, sir. None.

Pfc. MILLER: Luck.

Sgt. RILEY: Blind luck.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) On foot, under fire, Riley and Miller ran nearly a quarter of a mile to reach Edgar Hernandez and Shana Johnson whose vehicle had been rammed by the humvee.

(Desert, shadow of running soldier; Hernandez and Johnson talking to reporter; truck tires)

Sgt. RILEY: Back end of the tractor-trailer was right up to the front windshield. The—you have the av—butt end of the trailer (puts hands together), and here's the front windshield.

Pfc. MILLER: And I looked in to see if anybody was alive, and from my perspective, the only thing I saw was Lynch's foot twitching, but she looked like she'd been—she was dead like everybody else in the truck.

PHILLIPS: It didn't appear anybody had survive...

Pfc. MILLER: No. It—don...

PHILLIPS: ...as best you could see.

Pfc. MILLER: The twitching, I—I assumed, was from the after-

effects of the nerves. So I ran...

PHILLIPS: That was the only movement inside the—the vehicle.

Pfc. MILLER: Yes.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Believing no one in the humvee survived, Pat Miller risked his own life, setting out to commandeer a nearby Iraqi truck. Sergeant Riley tried to provide cover fire. But there was a problem.

(Photo of Miller; Riley talking to reporter)

Sgt. RILEY: At this point, the weapons are jamming up. They're not—we're having some—experience some—some malfunctions.

PHILLIPS: Shana, that's when you were hit. What do you remember about that?

Spc. JOHNSON: Sergeant Riley had told us to get down, take cover. And then I felt the burn.

PHILLIPS: The burn of the—of the bullets going through your leg?

Spc. JOHNSON: My legs.

PHILLIPS: Edgar at what—at what point were you injured?

Spc. HERNANDEZ: I think 30 seconds later.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Already hit by shrapnel in the face, Hernandez, on the ground beneath his truck, took a bullet in his right arm.

(Underneath truck)

PHILLIPS: (To Hernandez) So you're injured, (to Johnson) you are injured, and at this point, James, all three of you are under the truck, trying to take cover as best you can?

Sgt. RILEY: Trying to take cover and taking fire from RPGs—which are rocket propelled grenades—some—I don't know what they were, an improvised explosive of some sort, like a great big pipe bombs, and you could hear it hit the asphalt and go, 'Ding, ding, boom,' as it blew up.

PHILLIPS: You're talking about a major assault on you.

Sgt. RILEY: Oh, yeah. We could see them moving around, trying to just wait. And there were more of them coming every second.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Unable to reach that Iraqi truck, Private Miller instead scrambled to a spot overlooking the road. What he did there may have saved his fellow soldiers' lives. It earned him a silver star.

(Desert and shadow of running soldier; photo of Miller and others)

Pfc. MILLER: I seen a group of Iraqis sitting up a mortar pit. And as

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one of them tried to load the round into the tube, I shot him and he fell over and dropped the round. Did that about, like, six more times. Never got the round loaded.

PHILLIPS: You were picking them off every time they tried to drop one in?

Pfc. MILLER: Yes.

PHILLIPS: One after the one?

Pfc. MILLER: Yes. There was a guy running with an AK-47, had two women in front of him, using them as like a human shield. So I popped a round off over in that direction, and they all fell down. The two women got, I guess got away from the guy. And when the guy got up again, I shot off another round and he just fell over. And as I looked back toward the mortar pit, all I saw was a big circle and that's when I had to give up because there was nothing else I could do.

PHILLIPS: A circle of Iraqis around you.

Pfc. MILLER: Yes. If I wouldn't have give up ****(as spoken)****, I'd probably be dead.

PHILLIPS: And what happened at that point?

Pfc. MILLER: They, like, gang-tackled me.

PHILLIPS: For the 507th, the fight was almost over. Sergeant Riley made a decision that frustrates him to this day.

(Flag; Riley)

Sgt. RILEY: None of the weapons were functioning, I've got two wounded, Miller's already been surrounded and captured, and they've got us totally and pretty much encircled and pouring fire in. The choice was taken away. That's part of the code of conduct. You—you resist until you no longer have the means to resist, and at that point we didn't have the means to resist. It was a choice of die now or die later.

PHILLIPS: So what did you do?

Sgt. RILEY: Hoped like hell they wouldn't shoot me when I walked out, and crawled out and put the weapon down and put my hands up.

PHILLIPS: They pulled you out from under the truck, Shoshana?

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes.

PHILLIPS: What do you remember about that?

Spc. JOHNSON: Terror. You don't know what's going to happen.

PHILLIPS: James, how scared were you?

Sgt. RILEY: Oh, hey, that hadn't hit—hit yet. It didn't hit—hit until later. It was more of being pissed off, sir.

PHILLIPS: Pissed off at?

Sgt. RILEY: At the—at the firefight. Not being able to send a couple of them to meet their maker. It would have been really nice to send a couple of them to somewhere else.



An abandoned U.S. Army truck marks the spot where the 507th Maintenance Company was ambushed. CNN.

PHILLIPS: *(Voiceover)* It had been a costly day for the lost convoy: 11 dead, many wounded. The running gun battle lasted about an hour, an eternity in combat. These five survived. But now, in captivity, the test of their courage would continue.

(Sunset; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of captured Army truck; soldiers talking to reporter; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Hernandez; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Riley; Al Jazeera footage of Hudson; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Miller)

Spc. JOHNSON: Yeah, they had a camera in your face after all this happened.

Voice #1: *(From Al Jazeera TV)* What's your name?

Spc. JOHNSON: *(From Al Jazeera TV)* Shana.

Voice #1: *(From Al Jazeera TV)* Shana?

Spc. JOHNSON: *(From Al Jazeera TV)* Yes.

(Voiceover) Angry, scared and in a tremendous amount of pain.

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Johnson being interviewed)

Voice #1: *(From Al Jazeera TV)* You come from Texas?

Spc. JOHNSON: *(From Al Jazeera TV)* Yes.

Announcer: The cameras were rolling as the five POWs get their first taste of life at the hands of the Iraqi.



Spc. HUDSON: I—I'm sitting in my own pool of blood. I was pissed off.

Announcer: When Ambush continues.

(Announcements)

Announcer: A band of brothers and one sister soldier relive an unforgettable ordeal: their lives at the hands of Iraqi forces, when Ambush continues.

(Announcements)

Announcer: Ambush: The Story of the 507th, a Stone Phillips Exclusive, continues on DATELINE.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Eleven of their comrades lay dead, casualties of the firefight in An Nasiriyah. Now, the machinist, the mechanic, the welder, the supply specialist and the cook were in enemy hands.

(Military truck; Riley, Hudson, Miller, Hernandez and Johnson talking to reporter)

PHILLIPS: Did you think you were going to die?

Spc. HUDSON: When they initially captured me? Yes. I thought they were going to shoot me dead right there on the spot.

Sgt. RILEY: The whole time, you're sitting there wondering if they're going to kill you, because that—they do have that option.

PHILLIPS: Edgar, how about you?

Spc. HERNANDEZ: I did wonder if I was going to die, but at the same time, I never—I never lost faith with God. I kept praying the whole time I was there.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) But the soldier with the most cause for concern may have been Private First Class Patrick Miller.

(Miller talking to reporter)

PHILLIPS: Did you worry that, because you had obviously inflicted casualties, that maybe they were going to seek retribution against you?

Pfc. MILLER: Yes.

Voice #1: (From Al Jazeera TV) You have come to kill—to kill Iraqi people?

Pfc. MILLER: (From Al Jazeera TV) No, I come to fix broke stuff. I told to shoot only if I'm shot at. And they shot at me first so I shot back. I no—I don't want to kill anybody.



AL-JAZEERA

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) But in protecting his comrades by shooting those Iraqis in that mortar pit, he had.

(Captured Army truck; upside-down truck)

PHILLIPS: How many do you think you killed?

Pfc. MILLER: Total or just in the pit?

PHILLIPS: Just in that pit?

Pfc. MILLER: There were seven in that pit.



Offscreen Voice #5: (From Al Jazeera TV) What unit in Army?

Sgt. RILEY: (From Al Jazeera TV) Oh, 507th Maintenance Company.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Within hours of their capture, the Americans were questioned in front of Iraqi TV cameras. The world saw their faces, but could only imagine what the POWs themselves were seeing.

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of captured soldier; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Hudson being interviewed; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Hernandez, injured)

PHILLIPS: Tell me about the videotaping. What was the scene behind the camera?

Spc. HUDSON: It was...

Sgt. RILEY: It was...

Spc. HUDSON: It was haywire. I mean, there's 15 people trying to ask you the same question.

Offscreen Voice #6: (From Al Jazeera TV) What's your name?

Voice #1: (From Al Jazeera TV) What's your name?

Sgt. RILEY: (From Al Jazeera TV) Sergeant James Riley.

(To reporter) Bunch of people with weapons, bunch of people outside the door with weapons.

(Voiceover) Didn't have my glasses, so it was limited visibility for me.

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Riley being questioned)

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PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Were you scared?

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Riley being questioned)

Sgt. RILEY: (Voiceover) Oh, yeah.

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Riley being questioned)

Sgt. RILEY: ‘Are they going to do a public execution? Is it going to be torture? What’s the purpose of this? Where—where’s this going?’

PHILLIPS: What was going through your mind, Joe?

Spc. HUDSON: I was upset. I was really irate.

PHILLIPS: That was your response? Anger?

Spc. HUDSON: That was my response. I was very angry. They put that camera in front of my face, and all I could think about—name, rank, Social—and stare—stared dead straight in that camera.

Voice #1: (From Al Jazeera TV) What’s your name?

Spc. HUDSON: (From Al Jazeera TV) Specialist Joseph Hudson, 585-65...

(To reporter) And I’m sitting in my own pool of blood. And that’s all I could think of. I was just—I was pissed off.

Voice #1: (From Al Jazeera TV) What’s your name?

Spc. HERNANDEZ: (Voiceover) I was laying down on a—like on a couch.

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Hernandez being questioned)

Spc. HERNANDEZ: And I felt so weak, so tired because I had lost a lot of blood. And when they came in and they—they asked me questions, they picked me up.

Voice #1: (From Al Jazeera TV) Your name?

Spc. HERNANDEZ: (From Al Jazeera TV) My name—my name is Edgar from the United States.

(To reporter) And I was in so much pain, and I wasn’t really thinking at that time.

PHILLIPS: Almost as if you were someplace else.

Spc. HERNANDEZ: Yes.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Disturbing as it was to see wounded Americans paraded for Iraqi cameras, it was the image of the female POW that made America gasp.

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Hernandez; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Miller; Al Jazeera footage of Johnson)

Spc. JOHNSON: (From Al Jazeera TV) Shana.

Voice #1: (From Al Jazeera TV) Where are do you come from?

Spc. JOHNSON: (From Al Jazeera TV) Texas.

(To reporter) Once they figured out I was a female, they immediately separated me from the males.

PHILLIPS: Right there on the scene?

Spc. JOHNSON: (Nods) I was taken somewhere else.

PHILLIPS: What did they do with you?

Spc. JOHNSON: They bandaged my wounds.

PHILLIPS: Fairly soon after all of this happened?

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes.

PHILLIPS: And then taken for the interrogation—the television interview, if you will.

Spc. JOHNSON: The television. Yes.

(Voiceover) And they made it fairly obvious that they had bandaged my leg, I guess to make it seem that they had given some medical care.



(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Johnson)

PHILLIPS: You were looking back and forth.

Spc. JOHNSON: Because the person holding the microphone was not the person that was speaking English. so I just looked back and forth between them.

Voice #1: (From Al Jazeera TV) From any unit in American

Army?

Spc. JOHNSON: (From Al Jazeera TV) 507th Maintenance.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Your parents said they thought you looked very frightened.

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Johnson being interviewed)

Spc. JOHNSON: I was. It’s the unknown. You don’t know what’s going to happen to you. I was in a lot of pain. And I was angry, too.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) When the camera stopped rolling, all five prisoners were piled into a Toyota 4-Runner, destination: Baghdad.

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of soldiers’ belongings; truck

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driving on road at night; sign with "Baghdad" and arrow)

Spc. HUDSON: That's when I was pretty scared was that time, when they were transporting us. Didn't know what to expect.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Two more POWs—these American helicopter pilots—joined them in Baghdad. It was in the Iraqi capital that the wounded prisoners received much-needed medical care. Beneath the field dressings on Shana Johnson's legs were bullet wounds that required immediate attention.

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Helicopter pilot helmets; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of helicopter pilot prisoners; Baghdad; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Johnson)



Spc. JOHNSON: They did what they could for me. They even performed a surgery. The damage was pretty bad. If they hadn't done that, I

wouldn't be here.

PHILLIPS: So were you taken to a hospital?

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes.

PHILLIPS: They spoke English, the doctors?

Spc. JOHNSON: One doctor spoke English.

PHILLIPS: Did you trust him?

Spc. JOHNSON: It was kind—did I have a choice? I really didn't have a choice. I knew the damage to my leg, I knew that I could get an infection and just—and die. I didn't know when I was going to be rescued, if I was going to be rescued. I just had to take my chance. And I leaned on Joe a little bit. He...

Spc. HUDSON: Yes, I—I made the doctor show me his credentials before he even touched me.

PHILLIPS: You asked to see his...

Spc. HUDSON: I asked to see paperwork saying that he is a doctor.

PHILLIPS: His diploma, his medical degree?

Spc. HUDSON: Yes. And he was...

PHILLIPS: And he showed it to you?

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes.

Spc. HUDSON: He showed it to me. He was trained by British doctors.

PHILLIPS: And you were satisfied with what you saw?

Spc. HUDSON: I was very satisfied.

Spc. JOHNSON: Uh-huh.

Spc. HUDSON: The removed two pieces of shrapnel from my lower right ribs, and one round from lower—my lower left back.

PHILLIPS: Is it true that they actually had you sign a release?

Spc. HUDSON: Yes.

Spc. JOHNSON: Yeah.

Spc. HUDSON: They made us, like—mine was, like, you know, 'I understand I'm going to have surgery for removal of shrapnel wounds. And I would be under general anesthesia.

Spc. JOHNSON: Anesthesia.

Spc. HUDSON: Signed: name, rank.

PHILLIPS: You're prisoners of war...

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes.

PHILLIPS: ...and they're asking for a medical release form.

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes.

Spc. HUDSON: Medical release form.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Over the next three weeks, the POWs say they were blindfolded and moved seven times. Once, driven right through the middle of a firefight in Baghdad. There were more interrogations by what appeared to be high-ranking Iraqi officers. But mostly the prisoners spent time in their rooms, held separately in secret locations.

(Iraqi countryside; bombed military truck; firefight at night; flag; cell; door)

PHILLIPS: Tell me a little bit about what the days in captivity were like.

Spc. HUDSON: Real lonely and real quiet.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) And their meals: real small and very predictable.

(Soldiers talking to reporter)

Spc. JOHNSON: Chicken and rice.

Spc. HUDSON: Chicken and rice. Boiled chicken with no flavor and plain white rice.



PHILLIPS: The cook in the outfit is laughing.

(Voiceover) Uniform of the day: slippers and striped pajamas.

(Soldiers displaying prisoner uniform)

Spc. HUDSON: Tops, and this is what we would wear on the bottoms.

PHILLIPS: These were your prison stripes?

Spc. HUDSON: Yes.

Spc. JOHNSON: Mm-hmm.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) DATELINE has been told that in the first hours of captivity, several of the POWs were beaten with rifle butts, slapped, kicked, and humiliated. But when Private Miller began describing what happened to him right after he surrendered...

(Excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Riley; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Hernandez; Al Jazeera footage of rifles; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Hudson; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Miller)

Pfc. MILLER: They walked me back down the road, and some Iraqi came and punched me in the mouth.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) ...the group cautioned him to go no further.

(Soldiers talking to reporter)

Spc. HUDSON: Can't go there.

Spc. JOHNSON: Do go there.

Sgt. RILEY: Don't go there.

PHILLIPS: Let me just say this for the viewers: The issue of physical abuse is still under investigation by the Army. You have been instructed not to talk about that?

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes.

Sgt. RILEY: Correct, sir.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) But the POWs told us that generally their treatment was humane. If anything, they say, they were the ones tormenting their captors in any little way they could.

(Soldiers talking to reporter)

Spc. HUDSON: I pulled a whistling spree a couple of times, and they would get a little irate and tell me, you know, to shut up.

PHILLIPS: They didn't like you whistling.

Spc. HUDSON: They didn't like whistling at all. Because it was a form of making noise and communicating, and they knew it.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) While Hudson whistled, Miller warbled. His

song had a message.

(Soldiers talking to reporter)

Pfc. MILLER: The one that I was singing all the time just to make them mad.

PHILLIPS: What were—what were you singing?

Pfc. MILLER: I was singing Toby Keith's "Angry American."

PHILLIPS: And how's that go?

Pfc. MILLER: (Laughs)

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Apparently Miller's version was a little harder on the ear.

(Audio excerpt from Toby Keith's "Angry American"; tank firing; tank driving; building being shelled; American soldier putting red flag on statue; military convoy in city; soldiers marching; soldiers firing large gun; American flag; photos of Miller)

Spc. JOHNSON: He can't sing.

Spc. HUDSON: He can't sing.

Sgt. RILEY: He can't sing.

PHILLIPS: You were hard on your captors, and you were hard on these guys.

Spc. JOHNSON: He can't sing at all. It was—ooh, my goodness.

PHILLIPS: 'That must be really hurting them because it's hurting us.'

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) By April 1st, the Americans had been prisoners for 10 days. Back home, their capture and the calamity at An Nasiriyah had sparked debate about whether the US military's strategy had put units like the 507th unnecessarily at risk. The Pentagon was taking heat, when suddenly, it has some astonishingly good news about a soldier from the 507th.

(Cell; military truck; building being shelled; military convoy; photo of group of soldiers; Pentagon; Donald Rumsfeld and Richard Myers at press conference)

Brigadier General VINCENT BROOKS: Coalition forces have conducted a successful rescue mission of a US Army prisoner of war held captive in Iraq.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Private Jessica Lynch had survived that devastating humvee accident, and a Special Forces operation had plucked her from behind enemy lines in An Nasiriyah.

(Lynch being rescued)

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Offscreen Voice #7: (From file footage) Welcome back.

Offscreen Voice #8: (From file footage) There you go. You're doing great, Jessica.

Offscreen Voice #9: (From file footage) Jessica, we're so glad to see you. You're doing great.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Private Lynch's rescue was cause for celebration. But where were her comrades-in-arms, the other members of the 507th, last seen by their families on those Iraqi videotapes? Were they even still alive? The military had no answers.

(Lynch being transported; newspaper article with photos of missing soldiers; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Hernandez; excerpt from Al Jazeera video of Johnson)

PHILLIPS: What was the most frightening part of captivity for you?

Spc. JOHNSON: It was frightening and also hopeful to hear the US coming. We could hear them coming.

PHILLIPS: The bombs.



Spc. JOHNSON: The bombs. We could hear artillery. We could hear them coming. That gives you hope, because you think, 'They're going to come and get us.' But it's also scary, because what if the bomb hits us?

PHILLIPS: Were they close?

Spc. HUDSON: Very. Very.

Sgt. RILEY: Really close.

PHILLIPS: You could feel them?

Spc. HUDSON: Feel them.

Spc. JOHNSON: (Nods)

PHILLIPS: Building shaking?

Spc. HUDSON: Building shaking, bricks falling out of the—out of the walls.

Sgt. RILEY: Roof peeling back.

PHILLIPS: So you're wondering, 'After all of this, what if we're taken out by one of our own bombs?'

Spc. HUDSON: Yes.

PHILLIPS: Shana, we spoke to your parents a couple of days after you were taken prisoner of war. Your mom said she hoped you had your rosary with you. Did you?

Spc. JOHNSON: No, I didn't.

PHILLIPS: But you prayed a lot.

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes. I knew my daughter would be taken care of. My par—my parents would take care of my daughter. I wasn't worried about that at all. I was worried about how my parents, my family—my humongous family—was going to deal with my captivity. And I prayed.

PHILLIPS: Prayed for them?

Spc. JOHNSON: Prayed for them to have peace of mind if I didn't make it out. Yeah. But I figured I'd made it through that far. God had a plan.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) For these POWs, a band of angels was on the way, bearing a striking resemblance to US Marines. When we come back, the POWs, rescued.

(Soldiers talking to reporter; soldiers searching building; soldier manning gun)

Announcer: The stunning news of another rescue.

Spc. JOHNSON: We're like, 'What?' And they were like, 'I think her name is Lynch.' And we're like, 'Lynch is alive?'

Announcer: The sweet taste of liberty, when Ambush continues.

(Announcements)

Announcer: We now return to Ambush: The Story of the 507th, a Stone Phillips Exclusive.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Fort Bliss, Texas, Friday, April 11th, a memorial service to honor the soldiers of the 507th killed at An Nasiriyah. Saying goodbye to nine of their own. By now, three weeks into the war, victory in Iraq seemed all but certain. Baghdad had fallen, Jessica Lynch had been rescued, and yet the fate of the remaining POWs was still unknown.

But the somber spirits at this Army post were about to get a huge lift, courtesy of the United State Marines.

(Bagpipe band marching; people at memorial service; soldier and people at memorial service; guns; soldiers performing gun salute; soldier riding tank in Baghdad; man holding sign, "Bye bye Saddam"; statue of Saddam Hussein being toppled; memorial service; man playing "Taps")

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Spc. JOHNSON: Wonderful Marines came kicking down the door.

Spc. HUDSON: It was beautiful.

Spc. HERNANDEZ: It was so happy when I heard them—when

I heard them yelling clear English, you know? I knew that they were Americans.

PHILLIPS: What did they say, do you remember?

Spc. JOHNSON: ‘Get down. Get down.’

Spc. HUDSON: ‘Everybody get down.’ And all of us were on the floor.

Spc. JOHNSON: They did. Well, except for me. And I was like, ‘Well, she’s an American.’ Well, she’s still got to get down.’

PHILLIPS: Because of your leg you couldn’t get down?

Spc. JOHNSON: Yeah. I—I couldn’t get down fast enough.

PHILLIPS: Acting on a tip from an Iraqi, the Marines had stormed a building in a town north of Baghdad. By then, the POW’s had all been herded into one room.

(Photos of rescued POWs)

Spc. JOHNSON: We were so happy to see them. And they took a chance. It could have been an ambush. They could have been set up. They took a chance. Took a chance with their own lives to bring us home. And we’re grateful that our captors didn’t fight.

PHILLIPS: They didn’t put up any resistance?

Spc. JOHNSON: No. No resistance.

Spc. HUDSON: No resistance. Because that could have been disastrous.

Spc. HUDSON: Completely.

Sgt. RILEY: It was a beautiful thing, sir.

PHILLIPS: Had you ever been so glad to see a Marine?

Spc. JOHNSON: That was Joe’s words right there.

PHILLIPS: That was your words?

Spc. HUDSON: My words.

Sgt. RILEY: That was his words.

PHILLIPS: And those were big words for a former Army man.

Spc. HUDSON: Yes. Yes. Like I—like I told them, I never talked any smack about another Marine again.

PHILLIPS: So you were led out from your single room, and where did you go?

Spc. HUDSON: Hopped in back of light armored vehicle.

Spc. JOHNSON: Taken—light armored vehicle.

Spc. HUDSON: All of us piled in...

Spc. JOHNSON: Piled in.

Spc. HUDSON: ...sit on emry—MRE boxes, bottled water, crammed together. And I’m shoved in Shana’s lap, and everybody’s—everybody’s crowded like crazy. And we started moving, and then that’s when we knew it was for real, that we’re out of here.

Spc. JOHNSON: (Unintelligible)

They pulled us out, I’m bawling.

PHILLIPS: Tears of joy.

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes.

Spc. HUDSON: Tears of joy.

Spc. JOHNSON: And a young man coming up to me, ‘Ma’am, United States Marine Corps. I’m taking you home.’

(Voiceover) And I turned around and looked at him. He was so young. And through my tears, I remember saying that. ‘You’re so young.’

(Photo of Johnson and soldier)

Spc. JOHNSON: He was like, ‘It’s OK. You’re going home.’

Spc. HUDSON: (From file footage) I love you all Marines! I love you all Marines!

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) One of the first things the rescued POW’s heard from the Marines was the news about their comrade, Jessica Lynch, whom they hadn’t seen since the ambush.

(Video footage of Lynch being rescued)

Spc. JOHNSON: The Marines told us, you know, they rescued another female. And we’re like, ‘What?’ And they were like, ‘Well, I think her name is Lynch.’ And we’re like, ‘Lynch is alive? Oh, my—my goodness!’ We couldn’t believe it. We couldn’t believe it.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Evacuated to Kuwait, it was there they made their first calls home to friend and family.

(Excerpt from defense department video of rescued POWs enroute)

Spc. HUDSON: I called my wife, and what I expected was, you know, five minutes of nothing but crying from both of us, trying to

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get a word in.

(Voiceover) And—but it was me, that was crying. And I was very amazed at my wife's strength.

(Photo of Hudson and wife)

out Lynch was alive. We had found out that some of the others had made it out. You know, it was a lot to be grateful for.

Ms. JOHNSON: (Talking on phone) Hold on, I've got a little voice for you.

That's Mommy.

Spc. HUDSON: She—she was very strong through the whole ordeal and never gave up hope.

Spc. JOHNSON: (Talking from phone) Dad?

Mr. CLAUDE JOHNSON: (Talking on phone) Shana, how are you?

Spc. JOHNSON: (Talking from phone) I'm OK.

Spc. JOHNSON: Well, it seems everybody hear my first phone call home.

PHILLIPS: I wonder how that happened? On DATELINE.

Spc. JOHNSON: Yes.

Ms. EUNICE JOHNSON: (Talking on phone) We saw the picture. You look good. Well, you just got to remember me—you know...

Spc. JOHNSON: (Talking from phone) How's my hair look?

Ms. JOHNSON: (Talking on phone) Sh—Shana, you worrying about your hair?

PHILLIPS: Well, I want to say for the record, your hair, Shana Johnson...

Spc. JOHNSON: I did it again.

PHILLIPS: ...looks just beautiful.

Spc. JOHNSON: I need to get it done.

Sgt. RILEY: Oh, there she goes again.

PHILLIPS: Your mom says when she heard that from you over the telephone, she knew you were OK.

Spc. JOHNSON: She knows me pretty well.

PHILLIPS: That's what you were worried about.

Spc. JOHNSON: Yeah, I was—I was OK. I was alive. We had found



Mr. JOHNSON: 'Hello, Mommy.'

JANELLE: (Talking on phone) Hi, Mommy. Hello, Mommy.

Spc. JOHNSON: (Talking from phone) Hi, Janelle!

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) What was it like to hear your daughter's voice over the phone?

(Eunice and Claude Johnson and Janelle talking on phone)

Spc. JOHNSON: It was great. She let me know that I had a couple of owies. I was like, 'Yeah. Mommy's got owies.'

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) Captured on a Sunday, rescued on a Sunday, and home to Fort Bliss in time for Easter Sunday.

(Crowd waiting for plane; plane on approach for landing; plane taxiing with soldier sitting on top holding flag)

PHILLIPS: Pat, you holding the flag?

Pfc. MILLER: (Nods)

PHILLIPS: Joe, you pumping your fist?

Spc. HUDSON: Pumping my fist.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) What was that moment like for the two of you?

(Miller and Hudson on top of plane)

Spc. HUDSON: It was beautiful. I mean, we popped—popped out of that hatch. And I said, 'Hey, Miller, you want to hold the flag?' And, hey, I'm waving at the crowd. And first thing we saw was like, 'Wow! That is a big flag.'

(Miller and Hudson on top of plane; crowd waving flags; large flag on flagpole)



PHILLIPS: For a kid from Kansas, it's a lot of attention, isn't it?

Pfc. MILLER: Yes. It's overwhelming, all the attention that you get. It's just nice to be back home.

Spc. HUDSON: (Addressing crowd) Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for your outstanding support.

(Voiceover) This means the world to all of us. Remember our fallen soldiers. God bless America. This is why we live in a great country!

(Soldiers riding golf cart, waving to crowd; crowd waving flags; soldiers riding on golf cart)

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) When we come back, five newly-decorated soldiers on what it took to make it home.

(Soldiers being awarded medals)

Announcer: Lessons learned, the hard way.

Spc. HERNANDEZ: The Army's not that bad. Only when you go to war.

Announcer: When Ambush continues.

(Announcements)

Spc. HUDSON: (In parade) Thank you.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) What got you through this, Joe?

(Hudson and family riding in car in parade)

Spc. HUDSON: The fact that I have a family waiting for me at home. I was like, 'My daughter's not going to grow up fatherless.' That's the one thing that kept me going.

PHILLIPS: Edgar, how about you? You're back, you're married.

Spc. HERNANDEZ: Yes.

PHILLIPS: And you've re-upped.

Spc. HERNANDEZ: I did.

PHILLIPS: This didn't give you second thoughts?

Spc. HERNANDEZ: No, like, I don't know. The Army's not that bad. Only when you go to war.

PHILLIPS: Only when you go to war.

And what did you learn about yourself?

Spc. HUDSON: I have a strong will to survive.

Spc. JOHNSON: You can endure. You never know what you can do until you're put to the test. I never would have dreamed that I would

have been able to make all—make it through all of this. I had plenty of help, though.

PHILLIPS: From these guys.

Spc. JOHNSON: Yeah.

PHILLIPS: Left and right.

Spc. HUDSON: We have five diverse people. We've got Panamanian, we've got East Coast, we've got Kansas, we've got a Hispanic and me, I'm half Filipino.

PHILLIPS: That's a portrait of America.

Spc. HUDSON: Yes. We have five diverse groups of people that came together, and came together good.

PHILLIPS: (Voiceover) In July, under a bright Texas sky, the Army honored newly-returned veterans from the war in Iraq. Among them, five former POW's, members of a maintenance company recognized for valor in combat. For Patrick Miller, the Silver Star. Bronze for the others. All five decorated with prisoners-of-war medals and purple hearts.

Just as their names were called on this honor roll, the soldiers whose story you heard tonight wanted us to call, and you to remember, the names on another honor roll: the members of that ill-fated convoy who died in a place called An Nasiriyah: Specialist Jamaal Addison, Sergeant Edward Anguiano, Sergeant George Buggs, First Sergeant Robert Dowdy, Private Ruben Estrella-Soto, Private First Class Howard Johnson, Specialist James Kiehl, Chief Warrant Officer Johnny Mata, Private First Class Lori Piestewa, Private Brandon Sloan, Sergeant Donald Walters.

(Flag ceremony; soldiers standing at attention; soldiers being awarded medals; memorial service; guns; photos of soldiers who died; memorial service)

Spc. JOHNSON: I am proud to served with the ones that lost their lives that day.

(Voiceover) I'm a better person for having known them.

(Soldier's helmet at memorial service)

PHILLIPS: A few final notes. An Army investigation concluded that the navigational error that led to the tragedy in An Nasiriyah was caused by a combination of factors—operational pace, acute fatigue, isolation and the harsh environmental conditions—but assigned no blame, no disciplinary action recommended.

The former POWs told us their mental and physical adjustment to life back here at home is progressing, although Shana Johnson and Edgar Hernandez say their wounds have been slow to heal. They all say thanks for the overwhelming support they've received.



Attack on the 507th Maintenance Company

THE UNITED STATES ARMY

ARMY RELEASES REPORT ON THE ATTACK ON THE 507TH MAINTENANCE COMPANY

July 17, 2003

Army officials released a report today on the attack on an element of the 507th Maintenance Company in the city of An Nasiriyah on March 23, 2003, during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The report is the result of an intensive, focused effort to determine those facts that could be ascertained in a relatively short period of time. Several Department of Defense teams are investigating different aspects of this case. The Headquarters, Department of the Army team that compiled the released report drew on witness statements and other information collected in the course of those other investigative efforts. Therefore, the report does not answer all questions as some matters are still under investigation. Additionally, the report does not include detailed "lessons learned;" rather, it presents the facts and includes contributing human and environmental factors.

Officials said the report is intended to determine what happened, not to second-guess tactical decisions members of the unit made during the attack. Family members of the 11 soldiers killed, along with the surviving soldiers, including the former prisoners of war, were given special briefings before the report was made public.

The team members also stated that their review took into account the factors of fatigue, the intense pace of operations, the confusion and lack of information, and misinformation that occur in "the fog of war" when trying to assess what happened. They added that the soldiers of the 507th Maintenance Company fought bravely and as best they could given the situation. During the attack they upheld the Army's Values and the Law of War. The report indicated that these soldiers did their duty and deserve respect for the sacrifices they and their families have made.

Attack on the 507th Maintenance Company

23 March 2003

An Nasiriyah, Iraq

Executive Summary

The attack on the 507th Maintenance Company at An Nasiriyah was a tragedy not unlike those that have occurred in past conflicts in which this nation has engaged. Although violence and loss of life are realities of combat for Soldiers, the United States Army is committed to understanding this particular event in an effort to learn lessons and provide a means of closure for the families of those who made the ultimate sacrifice. The element of the 507th Maintenance Company that bravely fought through An Nasiriyah found itself in a desperate situation due to a navigational error caused by the combined effects of the operational pace, acute fatigue, isolation and the harsh environmental conditions. The tragic results of this error placed the Soldiers of the 507th Maintenance Company in a torrent of fire from an adaptive enemy employing asymmetrical tactics.

In the unprecedented rapid advance of the ground campaign towards Baghdad, the 507th Maintenance Company was last in a march column of 600 vehicles. The company became isolated, as communications, already stretched to the limit, could not be extended to include them while they recovered heavy wheeled vehicles from soft sand and breakdowns along a cross-country route through the Iraqi desert. Over a period of 60-70 hours with little rest and limited communications, human error further contributed to the situation through a single navigation error that placed these troops in the presence of an adaptive enemy who used asymmetric tactics to exploit the Soldier's willingness to adhere to the Law of War. Several measures were available to mitigate the risk of such an event, but were either not employed (Brief-back rehearsal) or were ineffective (Traffic Control Point-TCP).

Soldiers fight as they are trained to fight. Once engaged in battle, the Soldiers of the 507th Maintenance Company fought hard. They fought the best they could until there was no longer a means to resist. They defeated ambushes, overcame hastily-prepared enemy obstacles, defended one another, provided life-saving aid, and inflicted casualties on the enemy. The Soldiers of the 507th upheld the Code of Conduct and followed the Law of War.

The Army's examination of this event will continue through the lens of Objective

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Force operations on a non-contiguous battlefield. Operation Iraqi Freedom, though executed with current force capabilities in a joint environment, provided insight into the advantages and vulnerabilities that Army and all ground formations can expect to face in the future. Battle Command, situational awareness, and common leader and Soldier disciplines and skills—the “fundamentals”—down to the lowest levels become critical, perhaps more than ever before. The flexibility and agility required by the Objective Force calls upon the Army as an institution to ensure balanced investments between the advanced capabilities that allow commanders and formations to concentrate effects, and the development and retention of skilled Soldiers who are at least equally adaptive but more versatile than the threats they are likely to face in this century.

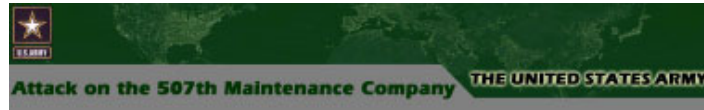
Introduction

Purpose, Scope and Methodology.

This report describes, in narrative form, the attack on an element of the U.S. Army 507th Maintenance Company by Iraqi military forces and irregulars in the city of An Nasiriyah on 23 March 2003 during OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. It is the result of an intensive, focused effort to determine those facts that could be determined in a relatively short period of time. This report does not answer all questions. In particular, in order to ensure the integrity of war crimes investigations, this report does not address in detail the conduct of Iraqi combatants during the battle, provides only a brief description of the death or wounding of each U.S. casualty, and does not address Iraqi treatment of U.S. Soldiers held captive. All these matters are under separate investigation. This report presents but does not assess decisions made and actions taken. These are matters for the unit's chain-of-command and for “lessons learned” reviews. This report does not address possible recommendations for decorations for valor. These types of recommendations are initiated by the unit chain-of-command according to Army regulations, and require substantiation. This report is intended to be an objective presentation of facts corroborated by multiple sources. Variances in individual perceptions, particularly during the intense strain of combat, make a perfect reconstruction of events impossible. The Review Team had access to the extensive work of trained experts and scrutinized a great deal of information. Finally, ongoing investigations may discover additional relevant information. This report should be read with these factors in mind.

This report was researched and prepared by a small team of Headquarters, Department of the Army officers working under the direction of the Commanding General, Training and Doctrine Command, tasked by the Chief of Staff of the Army to conduct a fact-finding review to determine what happened to the 507th Maintenance Company element in An Nasiriyah, Iraq on 23 March 2003.

Overview. In the early morning hours of 20 March 2003, U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps and coalition ground combat forces crossed from Kuwait into southern Iraq and attacked northward, beginning the



ground phase of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. By dawn on 23 March, major U.S. ground combat units had advanced more than 200 miles into Iraq and were

approximately 130 miles north of An Nasiriyah, an advance historically unprecedented for speed of execution and depth of penetration, designed to unhinge the Iraqis' ability to mount a coherent defense.

The rapid advance of coalition troops in thousands of vehicles and hundreds of aircraft was made possible by the determined, aggressive support of scores of logistics, medical, and maintenance units, many moving constantly to maintain contact with their supported units. One such unit was the 507th Maintenance Company, tasked to support a vitally important asset – a Patriot missile battalion.

At about 0700 hours (local time) on 23 March 2003, while moving through the outskirts of the city of An Nasiriyah in southeastern Iraq, an element of the 507th Maintenance Company was attacked by Iraqi military forces and irregulars. There were 33 U.S. Soldiers in the 18-vehicle convoy. All but two Soldiers in the convoy were members of the 507th Maintenance Company from Fort Bliss, Texas. The other two Soldiers belonged to the 3d Forward Support Battalion (3d FSB) of the 3d Infantry Division from Fort Stewart, Georgia, and were traveling in their 10-ton wrecker with the 507th.

The Iraqi forces in An Nasiriyah conducted fierce attacks against the convoy. Of the 33 U.S. Soldiers in the convoy, 11 were killed in combat or died as a result of injuries, seven were captured by Iraqi forces, and the remaining 16 Soldiers were able to rejoin friendly forces. Of the 22 U.S. Soldiers who survived, nine were wounded in action. Although all details of the battle could not be determined with certainty, it is clear that every U.S. Soldier did their duty.

It was not until 31 March 2003, that elements of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF) would take control of the city of An Nasiriyah.

The Attack

Arrival in Kuwait & Preparation for Movement to Iraq

The 507th Maintenance Company arrived in Kuwait from Ft. Bliss on 20 February 2003. The company consisted of 82 Soldiers and their assigned vehicles. The unit became a part of U.S. forces under the operational control of V Corps, which was located at CAMP VIRGINIA in Kuwait. From 22 February until 20 March, the 507th prepared for its mission in support of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM—to repair and maintain vehicles and equipment of the 5th Battalion, 52d Air Defense Artillery (Patriot), supporting the Central Command (CENTCOM) battle plan.

Unit preparation at CAMP VIRGINIA built on training that had been

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conducted at Fort Bliss, which included individual and crew-served weapons qualification, tactical communications, land navigation, Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) defense tasks, first aid, spot reporting, equipment maintenance, leader certification, force protection, deployment and redeployment operations, tactical employment, and sustainment operations. Once deployed and in CAMP VIRGINIA, Soldiers of the 507th conducted additional training and preparations at CAMP VIRGINIA that included rules of engagement, unit rehearsals (movement, actions on contact, ambush procedures), and weapons and vehicle maintenance. During this time, all Soldiers received their basic combat load of ammunition for their personal weapons (210 rounds for M16A2, 1000 rounds for M249 SAW, 45 rounds for M9).

The company commander ordered issue of ammunition for the unit's crew served weapons (.50 caliber and MK-19, 40mm) prior to movement, however, all pyrotechnics, hand grenades, and AT-4 Anti-tank weapons were consolidated and secured.

The plan to move V Corps units from CAMP VIRGINIA to OBJECTIVE RAMS (See FIGURE 1) involved the organization of convoys and movement of those convoys along designated routes—initially on ROUTE BLUE, then ROUTE JACKSON, then returning to ROUTE BLUE—and through three intermediate attack positions: DAWSON, BULL, and LIZARD (See FIGURE 3). The 507th Maintenance Company was under the tactical control of the 3d Forward Support Battalion (3d FSB) for this movement. According to the 3d FSB Orders Brief, the 507th Maintenance Company convoy would be directed from BLUE to JACKSON by Soldiers at a manned tactical control point (TCP) at the site where the routes separated.

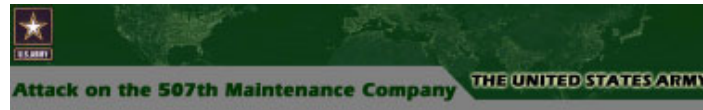


Figure 1 - Area of Area of Operations



Figure 2.

The Operations Officer of the 3d FSB gave CPT King, the commander of the 507th, a CD-ROM disc that contained orders and route information. Route information consisted of the battalion orders briefing and annotated large-scale maps. The 507th had commercial Global Positioning Systems (GPS) (Garmin, ETREX VISTA), (FIGURE 2), which had been issued in the United States

prior to deployment. The GPS gave CPT King directional signals via a display arrow that indicated the direction and distance the convoy should go. Five additional GPS were distributed to other leaders in the company. The unit was also issued 1:100,000 scale maps of the area of operations—the theater standard. The review of this incident revealed that CPT King relied primarily on his GPS and one of the annotated maps from the orders brief while traveling in

his HMMWV (See FIGURE 1 – Note the map from the brief did not have Routes and Objectives annotated here for clarity). CPT King had highlighted only ROUTE BLUE on the annotated map, and believed in error that BLUE was his assigned route.

On 20 March, at approximately 1400 hours, 64 of the original 82 Soldiers of the 507th departed CAMP VIRGINIA in 33 vehicles and moved northwest as part of a larger convoy. Their ultimate destination was OBJECTIVE RAMS more than 350 kilometers distant. The other 18 Soldiers (maintenance contact teams and medics) from the 507th were attached to and moved with other units.

Movement to ATTACK POSITION DAWSON

During the first leg of the route, from CAMP VIRGINIA to ATTACK POSITION DAWSON, while still in Kuwait, the 507th traveled off-road over desert terrain. At 2100 hours on 20 March, the 507th arrived at its first stop, ATTACK POSITION DAWSON, located just south of the Iraqi border. While at DAWSON, the Soldiers refueled and serviced their vehicles, ate and attempted to implement a rest plan. Most Soldiers got some amount of sleep in the 10 hours at this location. (see FIGURE 3)

**Movement from
DAWSON to link up with
3d FSB at the Line of
Departure (LD), to
ATTACK
POSITION
BULL**

At 0700 hours on 21 March, the 507th departed ATTACK POSITION DAWSON to link up with the 3d FSB. They crossed the line of departure into Iraq at 1000 hours. The convoy moved approximately 35 kilometers, arriving at ATTACK POSITION BULL at 1200 hours on 21 March. (see FIGURE 3)

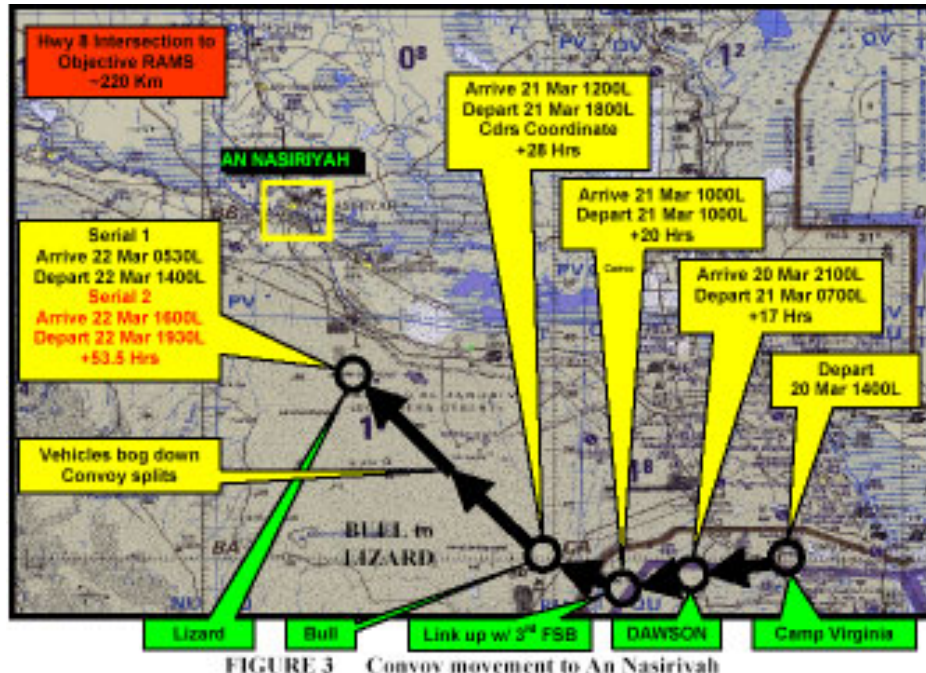
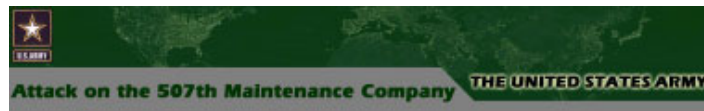
**Movement from
ATTACK
POSITION**

BULL to ATTACK POSITION LIZARD

At 1800 hours on 21 March, the 507th departed BULL with the 3d FSB enroute to LIZARD, 80 kilometers northwest. The convoy continued to travel off-road and some of the heavier vehicles bogged down in the soft sand. Drivers from many units became confused due to the darkness, causing some vehicles to separate from their march columns. Poor trafficability and mechanical problems resulted in the fragmentation of the 507th convoy into two groups. The first group consisted of those vehicles that did not break down or get stuck in the sand and were capable of keeping pace with the 3d FSB convoy. The second group consisted of those vehicles that had mechanical problems or were stuck in the sand, along with those vehicles used to tow or pull other vehicles free. CPT King took personal charge of the first group and arrived at LIZARD at about 0530 hours on 22 March, after an all-night movement. 1SG Dowdy was charged with recovering the second group and leading it to LIZARD. Working through the night of 21 March and into the next day, 1SG Dowdy recovered and repaired vehicles not only from the 507th but from the 3d FSB as well. The 1SG and the second group of 507th vehicles would eventually arrive at LIZARD at 1600 hours on 22 March, 22 hours after departing ATTACK POSITION BULL. (see FIGURE 3)

**Decision to Split the 507th Convoy at ATTACK
POSITION LIZARD**

After arriving at LIZARD, while awaiting 1SG Dowdy's arrival, CPT King contacted his battalion commander to inform him of the



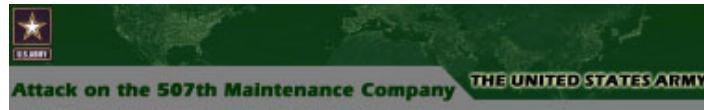
King also recalls reporting his status and confirming with the 3d FSB staff that the overall situation, to include route, was unchanged. The 3d FSB staff advised CPT King that the convoy would depart at 1400 hours as planned. Based on that information and with the intent to push support forward, CPT King directed his executive officer, 1LT Jeff Shearin, to lead all the available 507th vehicles and remain with the 3d FSB convoy. Shearin departed with 32 Soldiers in 17 vehicles at 1400 hours with the main

3d FSB convoy. King remained at LIZARD and waited for 1SG Dowdy and the remaining Soldiers and vehicles of the 507th.

At about 1400 hours on 22 March, 1SG Dowdy radioed CPT King to report that he had all of the remaining vehicles running or in tow and was 10-12 kilometers away from LIZARD. He arrived at LIZARD at about 1600 hours. Along with 1SG Dowdy were the two Soldiers from the 3d FSB, SGT George Buggs and PFC Edward Anguiano. Buggs and Anguiano were driving a 10-ton wrecker and had become separated from the rest of 3d FSB while recovering 3d FSB fuel trucks stuck in the sand between BULL and LIZARD. Apparently, 1SG Dowdy coordinated with Buggs and Anguiano to tow a disabled 507th 5-ton truck after they completed their recovery of the 3d FSB fuel trucks.

At 1930 hours on 22 March, 3 ½ hours after 1SG Dowdy closed on LIZARD with all remaining 507th Soldiers and vehicles, CPT King organized them into a new march unit. This second element, led by CPT King, departed LIZARD with 33 Soldiers, including himself, Buggs and Anguiano. The convoy was comprised of 18 vehicles, two of which were being towed (see FIGURE 4; composition of convoy on 22 March, including distribution of crew served weapons, radios, and GPS)

Intersection of ROUTES JACKSON (Highway 1) and BLUE (Highway 8)



Unable to communicate with the 3d FSB, CPT King attempted to catch up with the 3d FSB main convoy by deciding to take the most direct route (a straight line azimuth) to Highway 8. This route proved to be extremely difficult, over rough terrain, once again resulting in vehicles becoming bogged down in the sand. It took the unit five hours to reach Highway 8 [ROUTE BLUE] about 15 kilometers away. At this point, 42 hours had passed since the 507th had departed ATTACK POSITION DAWSON. Except for a 10-hour stop at DAWSON, the 507th had been continuously moving. Most Soldiers had slept only a few hours since the morning of the 20th and were in their second consecutive night of movement.

After traveling west on Highway 8, the convoy reached the intersection with Highway 1, ROUTE JACKSON, the assigned route for 3d FSB. The road on which ROUTE JACKSON was designated led southwest of An Nasiriyah, eventually intersecting again with ROUTE BLUE, east of OBJECTIVE RAMS. The initial entrance to ROUTE JACKSON required a left turn at this intersection, where a manned Traffic Control Point (TCP) was planned to direct traffic. When the convoy arrived at this intersection, U.S. personnel were present, but by this time there was no formal TCP. CPT King states

that the personnel that were present confirmed that BLUE continued North. Believing ROUTE BLUE was his assigned route, CPT King led his convoy through the intersection and headed north on Highway 8, towards An Nasiriyah in the general direction indicated by his GPS receiver – the waypoint west of An Nasiriyah.

At about 0530 hours, the convoy stopped when CPT King saw lights ahead, which he believed to be an industrial complex or an oil refinery. He conferred with 1SG Dowdy and decided to continue. At an intersection south of An Nasiriyah, Highway 8—ROUTE BLUE—turned west, requiring a left turn. CPT King did not recognize this and led his convoy straight North through the intersection and on to Route 7/8, exiting ROUTE BLUE. Route 7/8 led the convoy across the Euphrates River into the eastern outskirts of An Nasiriyah. (See FIGURE 5) An Nasiriyah is flanked by the Euphrates River in the south and a series of man-made canals in the north. It is a city characterized by buildings no greater than four to five stories in height, with many narrow streets and alleyways. The surrounding areas of An Nasiriyah, including the roadsides along the route taken by the 507th, are marshlands that have been partially-drained,

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507th Maintenance Convoy Serial 2

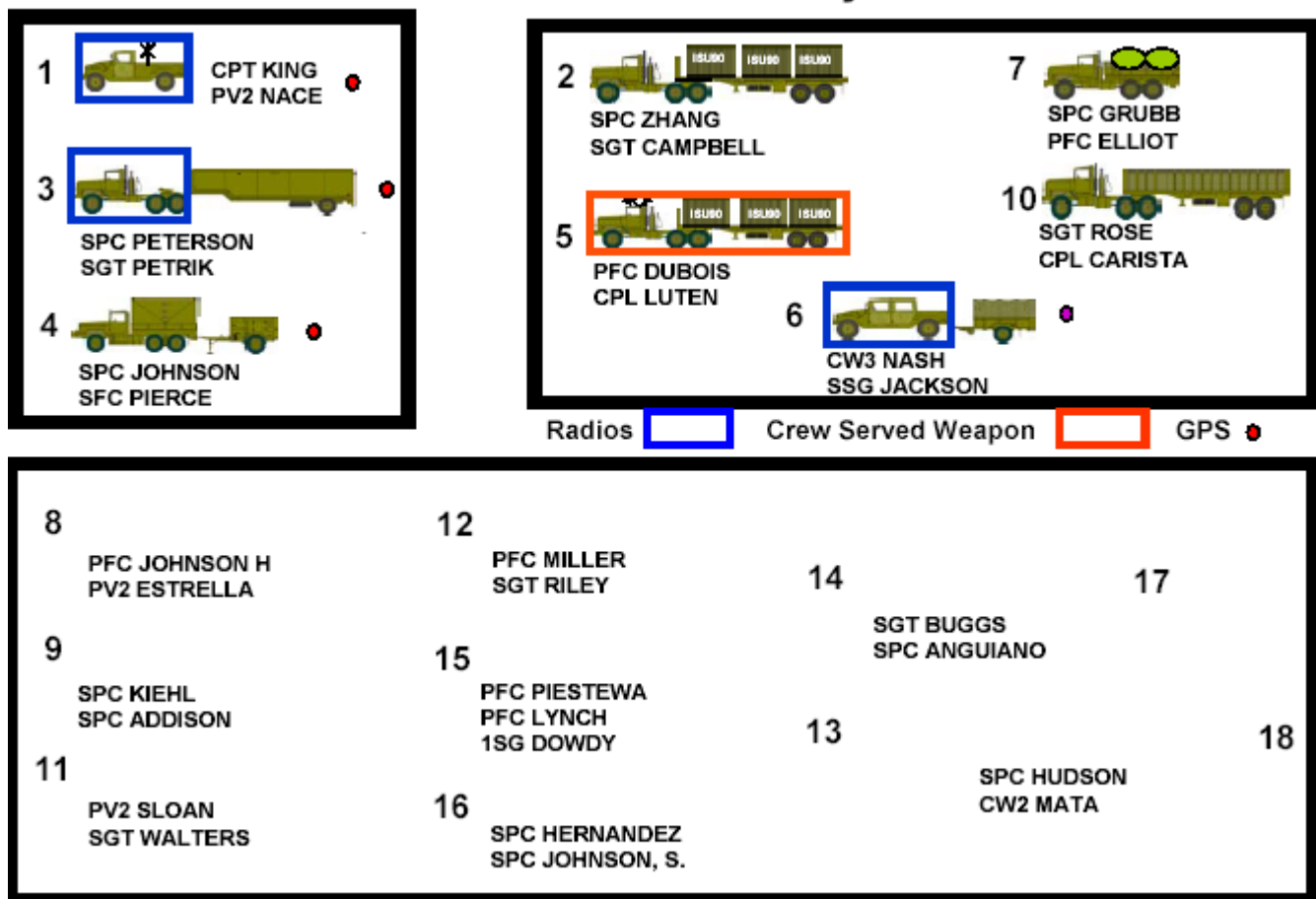


FIGURE 4 Serial 2 convoy (Vehicle numbers represent original march order sequence entering An Nasiriyah)

consisting of soft sand and mud.

Movement through An Nasiriyah

Five vehicles in the convoy had SINCARS radios and could communicate with one another (see FIGURE 4). SINCARS communications were augmented by handheld radios in each vehicle, but because of the extended duration of the convoy the batteries had expired. CPT King and 1SG Dowdy were communicating about their location and situation frequently as the convoy moved through An Nasiriyah.

Several Soldiers in the convoy, including CPT King, observed armed civilians and what appeared to be armed Iraqi soldiers at two checkpoints—one upon entering and the other exiting the town. None of these people fired or indicated hostile intent against the convoy. In fact, the Iraqi soldiers at the checkpoints waved to the convoy. One or more civilian trucks with armed civilians and mounted machine guns (some reports refer to these as “technicals”) drove past the convoy several times during its travel through the city, but again, no hostile intent was shown towards the 507th convoy and personnel.

Statements from 507th Soldiers indicate that rules of engagement issued by higher headquarters would only permit firing on personnel that exhibited hostile intent. Soldiers had also been warned to expect possible “happy fire”—shots fired in celebration and not intended to cause harm, which is a common practice. Additionally, they had been informed that the carrying of weapons by uniformed or civilian personnel would not, by itself, constitute hostile intent. The Rules of Engagement (ROE) in effect were summarized on a card issued to Soldiers. The ROE were issued by the Coalition Forces Land Component Command (CFLCC). (See FIGURE 6, CFLCC ROE Card).

On its way through the city, the convoy crossed a bridge over the Euphrates River and then another over a canal before coming to a “T” intersection with Highway 16 (See FIGURE 7). CPT King led the

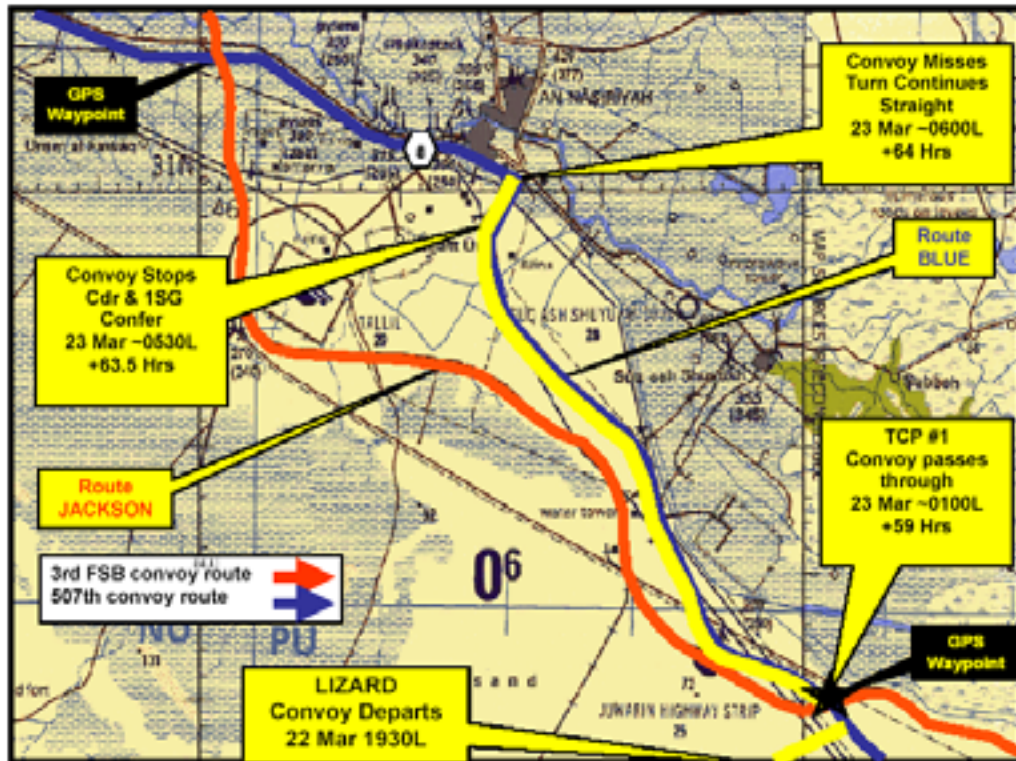
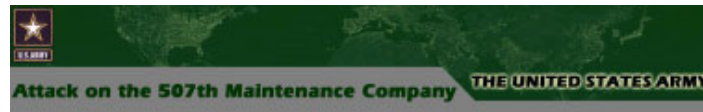
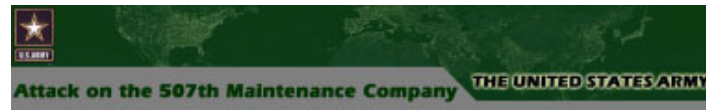


FIGURE 5 Convoy routes JACKSON and BLUE

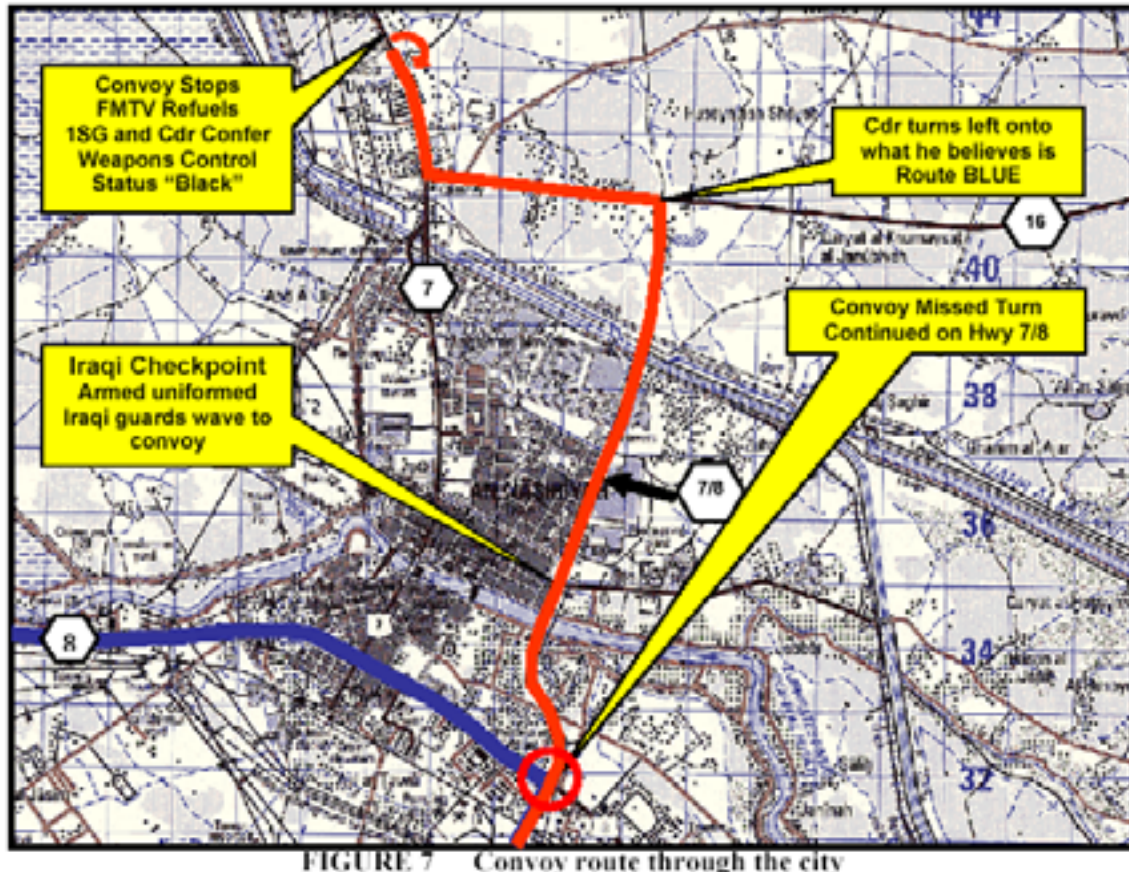
convoy left at this intersection, believing that he was still on his assigned route. The convoy soon reached another “T” intersection with Highway 7, at which time CPT King turned right, heading north with the rest of the convoy following. CPT King continued to move the convoy north and out of the city for approximately 2 kilometers. At this point, King realized, for the first time, that the convoy was off ROUTE BLUE. CPT King stopped the convoy and set up security. His GPS indicated that the main convoy route lay due west. There appeared to be no hard surface roads leading west from his location. After conferring with 1SG Dowdy, CPT King decided to retrace their route back through An Nasiriyah to find ROUTE BLUE/Highway 8. Realizing that he was off the convoy route, he instructed his Soldiers to “lock and load” their weapons and to be vigilant. SFC Pierce reiterated these instructions to all Soldiers. In some of the vehicles, Soldiers took the halt as an opportunity to change drivers. King then began turning the convoy around. This would be the first of two U-turns by the convoy.

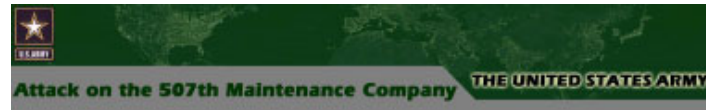
While turning around, the 10-ton wrecker, crewed by SGT Buggs and PFC Anguiano, ran out of fuel. CPT King stopped all vehicles and ordered the wrecker refueled. Soldiers refueled the wrecker using 5-gallon cans, as the only fuel truck in this convoy was emptied over the course of the 507th’s extended movement. After refueling was completed, CPT King resumed turning the vehicles around and headed south on Highway 7. CPT King was at the head of the convoy and 1SG Dowdy was in the rear. At the intersection with Highway 16, the convoy turned left (eastward) and headed back towards the city. (See FIGURE 7)



CFGCC ROE CARD	CFGCC ROE CARD
<p>1. On order, enemy military and paramilitary forces are declared hostile and may be attacked subject to the following instructions:</p> <p>a. Positive Identification (PID) is required prior to engagement. PID is a reasonable certainty that the proposed target is a legitimate military target. If not PID, contact your next higher command for decision.</p> <p>b. Do not engage anyone who has surrendered or is out of battle due to sickness or wounds.</p> <p>c. Do not target or strike any of the following except in self defense to protect yourself, your unit, friendly forces, and designated persons or property under your control:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civilians • Hospitals, mosques, churches, shrines, schools, museums, national monuments, and any other historical and cultural sites. <p>d. Do not fire into civilian populated areas or buildings unless the enemy is using them for military purposes or if necessary for your self defense. Minimize collateral damage.</p> <p>e. Do not target enemy infrastructure (public works, commercial communication facilities, dams). Lines of communication (roads, highways, tunnels, bridges, railways, and economic objectives) commercial storage facilities, pipelines, unless necessary for self defense or if ordered by your commander. If you must fire on these objects to engage a hostile force, disable and disrupt but, avoid destruction of these objects, if possible.</p>	<p>2. The use of force, including deadly force, is authorized to protect the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yourself, your unit, and friendly forces • Enemy prisoners of war • Civilians from crimes that are likely to cause death or serious bodily harm, such as murder or rape • Designated civilians and/or property, such as personnel of the Red Cross/Crescent, UN, and USUN supported organizations. <p>3. Treat all civilians and their property with respect and dignity. Do not seize civilian property, including vehicles, unless you have the permission of a company level commander and you give a receipt to the property's owner.</p> <p>4. Detain civilians if they interfere with mission accomplishment or if required for self defense.</p> <p>5. CENTCOM General Order No. 1A remains in effect. Looting and the taking of war trophies are prohibited.</p> <p>REMEMBER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attack enemy forces and military targets. • Spare civilians and civilian property, if possible. • Conduct yourself with dignity and honor. • Comply with the Law of War. If you see a violation, report it. <p>These ROE will remain in effect until your commander orders you to transition to post hostiles ROE. AS OF 311334Z JAN 03</p>

Figure 6 CFLCC ROE CARD (Copied from original for clarity)





Attack on the Convoy (See FIGURE 8)

As the convoy turned left on to Highway 16, at about 0700 hours, it began to receive sporadic small arms fire, the source and direction of which could not be determined. The 1SG radioed CPT King that the convoy was being fired upon and they needed to speed up to get away from the small arms fire. The 1SG directed the vehicles at the end of the convoy to increase their speed, consistent with unit procedures for reacting to a convoy ambush. Due to dissimilar vehicle size and acceleration rates, spacing between vehicles in the convoy began to increase.

In the speed and

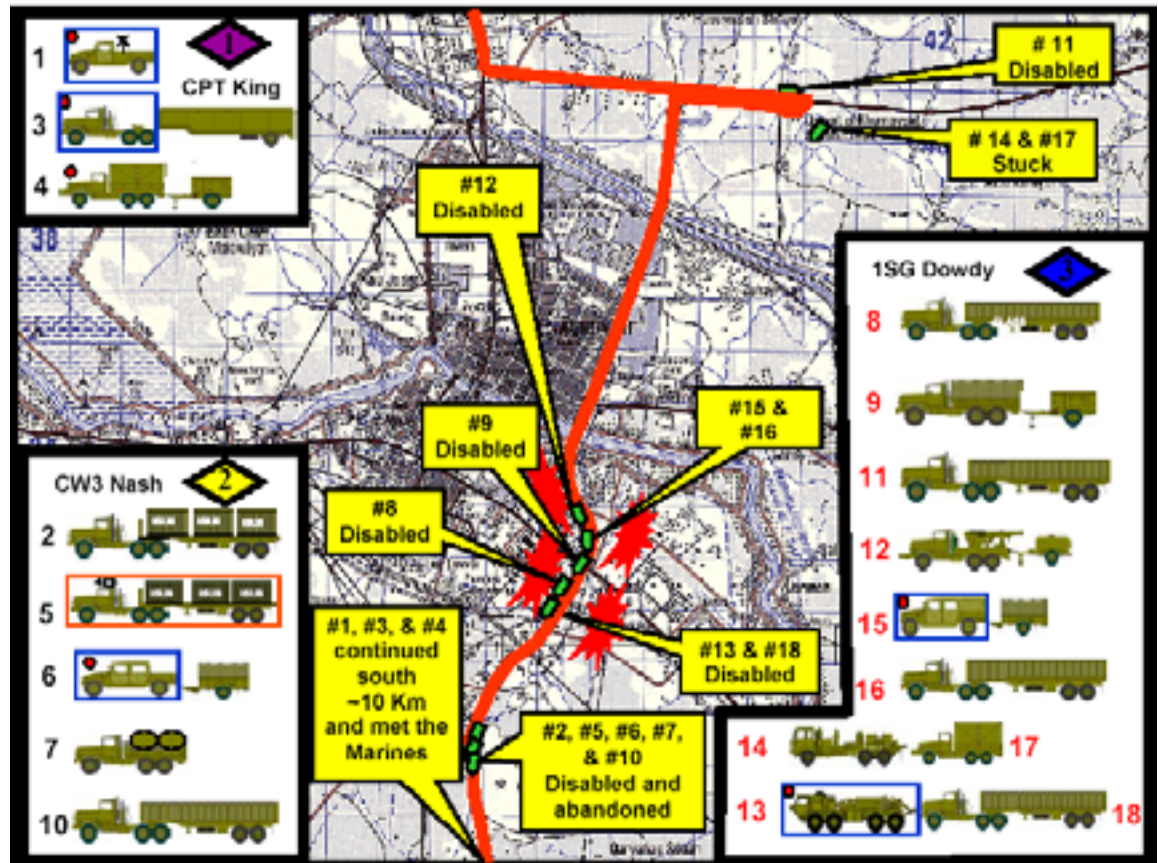


FIGURE 8 Convoy's final disposition

confusion, CPT King, who remained at the head of the convoy, passed the intersection with Highway 7/8, missing the right turn going south. 1SG Dowdy radioed CPT King to alert him that he had missed the turn. SFC Pierce, in a 5-ton truck driven by SPC Johnson, sped up to catch CPT King, to tell him that he (SFC Pierce) knew the way back to the turn. CPT King ordered SFC Pierce to lead the convoy back to the intersection. At this point all drivers had passed by the Highway 7/8 turn going south. Midway in the convoy a 5-ton tractor-trailer driven by PVT Sloan with SGT Walters became disabled. The vehicle behind it, a 5-ton wrecker with water trailer, driven by PFC Miller, with SGT Riley in the passenger seat, executed a combat pick-up of Sloan while moving and under fire. It is unclear whether SGT Walters was picked up by others in the convoy or remained in the area of the disabled tractor-trailer. There is some information to suggest that a U.S Soldier, that could have been Walters, fought his way south of Highway 16 towards a canal and was killed in action. SGT Walters was in fact killed at some point during this portion of the attack. The circumstances of his death cannot be conclusively determined by available information.

The remaining vehicles of the convoy had to travel almost 3 kilometers past the intersection before finding an area large enough to allow the vehicles to execute a U-turn. The convoy pulled off of

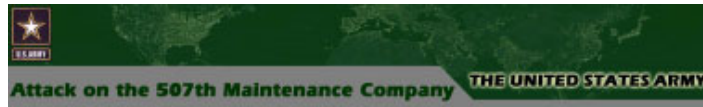
Highway 16 to turn around and head back to the missed turn. While attempting to make the U-turn, the 10-ton wrecker driven by SPC Anguiano with SGT Buggs, towing the 507th's disabled 5-ton supply truck (originally driven by PFC Lynch with SGT Rose), got stuck in soft sand. While the rest of the convoy turned around and headed west, Soldiers continued to receive fire.

1SG Dowdy, in a HMMWV at the rear of the convoy, conducted a combat pick-up of Buggs and Anguiano along HWY 16. Also in that HMMWV were PFCs Piestewa and Lynch. Piestewa was the driver, and Lynch was seated in the rear. 1SG Dowdy radioed CPT King, informing him that he had picked up two Soldiers and advised King that they needed to get the convoy out of the city as quickly as possible. SGT Buggs or PFC Anguiano began returning fire with an M249 Squad Automatic Weapon (SAW) from the rear of the HMMWV as they continued south.

CPT King regained the lead position in a convoy that had disintegrated into smaller groups and independent vehicles. In the dust and confusion and still receiving fire, the larger, slower moving

continued on page 25

vehicles required additional space to turn around while smaller vehicles turned around inside of them. This rearranged the convoy's march order and further extended distances between vehicles. The remaining 15 vehicles, including a tractor-trailer being towed by a wrecker driven by SPC Hudson with CW2 Mata, sped south on Highway 7/8. The 507th convoy became divided into three smaller groups as it attempted to move south out of the area.



Group 1. The first group consisted of the following vehicles and occupants: #1- a HMMWV, driven by PVT Dale Nace with CPT Troy King in the front passenger seat, #3- a 5-ton tractor trailer driven by SGT Joel Petrik with SPC Nicholas Peterson in the passenger seat and #4- a 5-ton truck with trailer, driven by SPC Timothy Johnson with SFC Anthony Pierce in the passenger seat. As this group fought its way south through the city, it received fire from all directions, primarily from the west side of Highway 7/8. Iraqis attempted to block the road with vehicles and debris. While under fire, PVT Nace, SPC Johnson, and SGT Petrik successfully maneuvered their respective vehicles around and through obstacles and continued all the way through the city. Soldiers in this group returned fire while moving. Most of the Soldiers in this group report that they experienced weapons malfunctions. These malfunctions may have resulted from inadequate individual maintenance in a desert environment. About 10 kilometers south of the intersection of Highway 8 and 7/8, this group met elements of the 8th Tank Battalion, Task Force Tarawa, U.S. Marines. After CPT King briefed the Marines on his unit's situation, the Marine unit immediately sent elements north on Highway 8 to attempt to rescue the remainder of the 507th.

Group 2. The second group consisted of the following vehicles and occupants: #2- a 5-ton tractor trailer driven by SPC Jun Zhang with SGT Curtis Campbell in the passenger seat, #5- a 5-ton tractor trailer driven by PFC Marcus Dubois with CPL Damien Luten in the passenger seat, #6- a HMMWV with trailer, driven by CW3 Nash with SSG Tarik Jackson in the front passenger seat, #7- a 5-ton fuel truck, driven by PFC Adam Elliot with SPC James Grubb in the passenger seat and #10- a 5-ton tractor-trailer, driven by SGT Matthew Rose with CPL Francis Carista in the passenger seat. Corporal Luten, in the tractor-trailer driven by PFC Dubois, attempted to return fire with the 507th's only .50 cal. machinegun, but the weapon failed. Luten was wounded in the leg while reaching for his M16. The group took increasing small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire from all sides; and like the first group faced attempts to block the road with debris and vehicles. The tractor-trailer immediately in front of CPL Luten's tractor-trailer, crewed by SPC Zhang and SGT Campbell, was hit multiple times and became inoperable about 5 kilometers south of the city—but short of CPT King's final location further south. Zhang jumped out of the disabled tractor-trailer and got on the tractor-trailer rolling immediately behind, occupied by Dubois and Luten. SGT Campbell was shot while attempting to fire Zhang's M16/M203. The HMMWV crewed by Nash and Jackson stopped to pick up Campbell, and was disabled a short distance further south. SSG Jackson had received multiple wounds prior to stopping to rescue Campbell. Dubois, Luten, and Zhang turned

around and returned to the disabled HMMWV.

SPC Grubb returned fire with his M16 until wounded in both arms, despite reported jamming of his

weapon, while PFC Elliot maneuvered their fuel truck through the ambush. SGT Rose, driving a tractor-trailer, maneuvered through obstacles in the road while under fire. CPL Carista, who was riding with Rose, was wounded by shrapnel. The fuel truck, crewed by SPC Grubb and PFC Elliot, and the tractor-trailer, occupied by SGT Rose and CPL Carista, linked up with the Soldiers already at the disabled HMMWV. This group formed a defensive perimeter, while Combat Lifesavers (Carista, Elliot, Rose, Zhang) under the leadership of SGT Rose tended to the wounded Soldiers (Campbell, Carista, Grubb, Jackson and Luten). The Marines arrived at the scene and rescued the 10 Soldiers at this location.

Group 3. This group consisted of the following vehicles: #8- a 5-ton tractor-trailer, driven by PFC Howard Johnson with PVT Ruben Estrella-Soto in the passenger seat, #9- a 5-ton truck with trailer, driven by SPC Jamaal Addison with SPC James Kiehl in the passenger seat, #12- a 5-ton wrecker, driven by PFC Patrick Miller, with SGT James Riley and PVT Brandon Sloan as passengers, #13- a HEMTT wrecker towing a 5-ton tractor trailer (vehicle # 18), driven by SPC Joseph Hudson with CW2 Johnny Mata in the passenger seat, #15- a HMMWV with trailer, driven by PFC Lori Piestewa with 1SG Robert Dowdy in the front passenger seat, and PFC Jessica Lynch, SPC Edward Anguiano and SGT George Buggs in the rear, and #16- a 5-ton tractor-trailer, driven by SPC Edgar Hernandez, with SPC Shoshana Johnson in the passenger seat. At the point north of the city on Highway 16, where CPT King ordered the convoy to turn around and go back to the missed turn (south on Highway 7/8), this group had difficulty turning around, probably due to the large size of vehicles and the fact that all were towing a trailer or disabled vehicle.

At about 0720 hours, the 5-ton tractor-trailer, occupied by SPC Hernandez and SPC S. Johnson, came under heavy fire. SPC Hernandez tried to avoid hitting an Iraqi truck blocking the road in front of him and lost control of the vehicle, veering to the right and off the road. To their rear, 1SG Dowdy, in the HMMWV driven by PFC Piestewa, reached Miller's 5-ton wrecker and ordered him to increase speed and keep moving. The 1SG's HMMWV was then hit by direct or indirect fire and crashed at a high rate of speed into the rear of the stopped tractor-trailer, still occupied by SPC Hernandez and SPC S. Johnson.

There were five Soldiers in 1SG Dowdy's vehicle: 1SG Dowdy, his driver PFC Piestewa, and three Soldiers in the back—PFC Lynch, SGT Buggs and PFC Anguiano. 1SG Dowdy was killed on impact. Piestewa survived the crash, but was seriously injured and died in captivity. Lynch was also seriously injured and captured. The circumstances of Buggs' and Anguiano's deaths remain under investigation.

PFC Miller's truck, with SGT Riley and PVT Sloan as passengers,

was disabled by enemy fire about 400 meters north of where 1SG Dowdy's HMMWV hit SPC Hernandez's tractor-trailer. PVT Sloan was killed by enemy fire before the vehicle came to a stop.

PFC Miller and SGT Riley dismounted from their truck and moved to assist the occupants of the HMMWV and tractor-trailer just ahead of them. The occupants of the HMMWV appeared to be dead or beyond help. SGT Riley attempted to secure 1SG Dowdy's M16, since his own rifle had malfunctioned, but was unsuccessful. SGT Riley then directed SPC Johnson and SPC Hernandez to take cover. Riley also attempted to fire Johnson's and Hernandez's M16s, but both jammed. Johnson and Hernandez were both wounded.

Consistent with the Code of Conduct, with no means to continue to resist, SGT Riley made the decision to surrender the two Soldiers (Hernandez, and Johnson) and himself. PFC Miller moved beyond the crash-site, engaged the enemy, and was captured after being surrounded. Although unconfirmed, Miller may have killed as many as nine Iraqi combatants

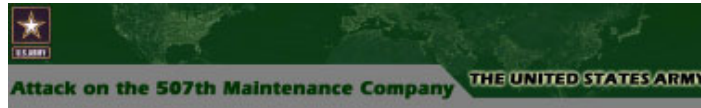
In the HEMTT wrecker towing a 5-ton tractor-trailer, SPC Hudson attempted to fire his M249 SAW while driving, but it malfunctioned. After he had driven past obstacles and debris, including an Iraqi tank blocking the road, his vehicle was disabled on the southern edge of the city. Iraqi forces continued to fire on the vehicle after it stopped. CW2 Mata, in the passenger seat, was killed, having sustained multiple wounds. Hudson, also wounded, was immediately surrounded after the shooting stopped, and was pulled from the vehicle by Iraqis and captured. (FIGURE 8 shows the final disposition of the convoy).

The 5-ton tractor trailer (#8), crewed by PFC Howard Johnson and PVT Ruben Estrella-Soto, and the 5-ton truck (#9), crewed by SPC Jamaal Addison and SPC James Kiehl, attempted to drive out of the city. After both vehicles maneuvered several miles under fire, and nearly out of the city, both were destroyed. There are few details to describe what happened to the Soldiers in these vehicles. Both vehicles were stopped: #9 overturned at the Highway 8-7/8 intersection, possibly hit by direct or indirect fire, and #8 was disabled south of the intersection. There is some evidence to suggest that vehicle #8 struck the barrel of an Iraqi tank. All four Soldiers were killed in action.

Conclusion

Of the 33 Soldiers who entered An Nasiriyah in 18 vehicles (including two that were being towed) on 23 March, 11 Soldiers were killed, seven were captured and nine were wounded (including some of those captured). Sixteen Soldiers in eight vehicles emerged from the attack. The number of Iraqi casualties inflicted by Soldiers of the 507th and 3d FSB could not be determined. From start to finish, the attack on the 507th lasted an estimated 60 to 90 minutes.

In reviewing the actions on the morning of 23 March 2003, it is clear that the Soldiers of the 507th Maintenance Company, including two Soldiers from the 3d FSB, were attacked for a sustained period of



time. Fatigue, stress, the asymmetric nature of the threat, and the environment contributed to the events leading up to and during this attack. Every Soldier performed honorably and each

did his or her duty. The battle for An Nasiriyah would last until March 31st when the Marine Corps ultimately gained control of the city.

Open window gives captains career options

by Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs

WASHINGTON (Army News Service, Aug. 1, 2003) – When a transportation officer was told that after working 14 years in his field that he was going to have to take a different career path he was not surprised or upset.

"I asked for it," said Maj. Dennis McCallum, a force management officer.

Now a 90-day window is open to give 27,000 captains the chance to ask for their second career field. Junior captains in the 1998 year group have from Aug. 1 to Nov. 1 to submit their preference www.us.army.mil, the Army Knowledge Online Web site.

For the first time, the officers can choose their branch career field, which was assigned to them after they were commissioned into the Army.

"If you don't make a selection, that doesn't mean that you're choosing to stay in your branch career field, said Maj. Jason Lerner, the chief of Military Schools Section at the Total U.S. Army Personnel Command. "No selection means that you don't have a preference, and can be assigned based on Army requirements."

Most officers never work in the second field that they opted for, Lerner said.

However, it's a decision that shouldn't be taken lightly, McCallum said. "If they're only looking ahead four to five years, they're off target. Considering factors in making the decision should be experience, background and where they want to be in future."

McCallum said he's very content in his current field. He manages equipment and makes sure that soldiers get what they need to do their job. While mentioning peers of his that are unhappy with their career-move decision, he shook his head.

"They're still in those jobs," he said.

The decision to choose a second career path is given to junior captains after five or six years of service. It's referred to as functional area designators that are technical or skill-based jobs such as public affairs, foreign area and nuclear research operations.

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New Army Chief of Staff takes office

by Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs

WASHINGTON (Army News Service, July 4, 2003) - In a small, inconspicuous Pentagon ceremony Gen. Pete Schoomaker came out of retirement Aug. 1, and swore to uphold the duties as the Army's 35th chief of staff.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld was the first to make remarks during the ceremony, which was held in the office of Les Brownlee, the acting Army secretary. More than once Rumsfeld thanked Schoomaker and his wife, Cindy, for returning to duty.

"I'm absolutely delighted that General Schoomaker is going to undertake this responsibility," Rumsfeld said. "It's an enormously important one — not just for the Army but for the country."

Before retiring in August 2000, Schoomaker served 31 years in the military. He said that he knows this Army is very different from the one he entered.

"I truly feel blessed to be part of the Army's future," Schoomaker said. "I have the opportunity to contend and help the Army as it becomes more relevant and ready."

Schoomaker will lead the Army on the heels of retired Gen. Eric Shinseki, the former chief of staff of the Army. Shinseki started the move toward Transformation and later oversaw an Army transforming while at war.

The War on Terror is not a new war, according to a statement Schoomaker released shortly after his swearing-in ceremony. Twenty-three years ago in the Iranian desert during Operation Desert One, Schoomaker said he lost eight of his comrades.

Schoomaker said he knew grief, but he didn't know that he was in the opening engagements of this country's long struggle against terrorism.

"Our enemies have been waging [this war] for some time, and it will continue for the foreseeable future," according to the statement. "As the president has stated, 'This is a different kind of war, against a different kind of enemy.' It is a war we must win, a war for our very way of life."

Schoomaker's vast experience in both conventional and special operations, along with his genuine care and concern for soldiers and their families qualifies him to lead the Army at a very critical time in history, Brownlee said in a press release.

The Army's newest chief of staff is the first retired four-star officer ever to be called back to serve as the U.S. Army chief of staff. He and his father are also one of the few father-and-son teams to serve in the Office of the Chief of Staff of the Army.

His father, Fred Schoomaker, who also had a long-standing military career, was the assistant to Army Chief of Staff Gen. Harold Keith



New Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker is sworn in as the 35th Chief of Staff by Les Brownlee, acting Army Secretary, in the Pentagon Aug. 1. Schoomaker's wife, Cindy, is holding the Bible. Photo by Jerome Howard.

Johnson from 1964-1968.

Schoomaker comes from a household of career military men. His younger brother, Brig. Gen. Eric Schoomaker, is the chief of the Southeast Regional Medical Command.

Before hanging up his uniform in 2000, Schoomaker spent three years as commander-in-chief of the U.S. Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. Prior to that he commanded the Joint Special Operations Command, United States Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, N.C. Then he became commanding general of the United States Army Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg until October 1997.

Open window gives captains career options continued

Lerner will continuously keep track of how many captains have submitted a functional area preference. Any officer who does not comply should expect a phone call or e-mail message from his branch manager, Lerner added.

By placing constant reminders in their ears, more captains are taking the time to choose their top three functional area designators.

"We tried this approach last year and the return rate was 90 percent — previous years were extremely lower," Lerner said.

More information on the Army's 18 functional area designators and step-by-step instructions on how to submit preferences can be found on the PERSCOM homepage at, https://www.perscom.army.mil/opfamdd/FAD_Upcoming_Boards.htm.

www.goordnance.apg.army.mil

“We won’t forget”: Wolfowitz describes visit to painful scenes in Iraq

by Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3, 2003 — A photo of a woman searching for family among skeletal remains wrapped in white linen hung above the podium where Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz gave the keynote address Aug. 2 for victims of Saddam Hussein’s regime.

The message printed in black letters on the photo read: “We Won’t Forget.”

Neither will Wolfowitz, who joined about 60 Iraqi family members on the campus of George Washington University for a memorial service to remember those who suffered under Saddam.

In describing a recent visit to Iraq, Wolfowitz said that no trip to the country would be complete without some exposure to the crimes of Saddam Hussein’s regime. “I don’t have to tell you how painful that is,” he said.

The deputy secretary said that during his visit he toured the mass grave sites in Al Hillah and the torture chambers at the prison in Abu Gharib. He said he spoke with victims who survived and the families of those who did not.

He said he also met with a few of the remaining so-called “Marsh Arabs,” who survived after Saddam drained the marshlands where they lived and created a vast wasteland that nearly wiped out their ancient civilization and way of life.

“We saw evidence of the cruelty that was visited on Shia and Sunni, Muslim and Christian, Kurd, Arab and Turk alike. All the people of Iraq were victims of Saddam’s regime,” he observed.

Wolfowitz told the families that the morale of American troops in Iraq is high, because “they understand the importance of their mission and so do the Iraqi people.”

He also told them that most Iraqis support the coalition’s efforts. He noted that during his visit he was met by Iraqis giving the “thumbs up” sign and shouts of “thank you” and “Bush is good.”

“Throughout Iraq — from the north and the center, as well as the south — we heard many expressions of gratitude that Iraq was liberated,” he said, “from Sunnis as well as Shia, from Arabs as well as Turks and Kurds, Muslims and well as Christians.” Wolfowitz also asked Iraqi families not to forget the fallen service members who gave them their freedom. “We can honor their memory by completing the task of building a free, democratic Iraq, a country with a government of the Iraqi people, by the Iraqi people, and for the Iraqi people,” he said.

He urged them to honor the sacrifices of the coalition soldiers by “finishing the work that they and so many others gave their lives for.”

During the memorial a moment of silence was observed for the victims in Iraq and a presentation was made documenting U.S. and Iraqi efforts to uncover the remains of those missing in Iraq. There were

also remarks by a representative from a victim’s family.

Before departing, Wolfowitz was presented with two abstract drawings by Iraqi artists Hussein Alawan and Ahmen Barakat. The pictures, done in charcoal, depicted the artists’ view of the human tragedy that millions of Iraqis suffered under Saddam’s brutal regime.



Saddam Hussein, who killed countless innocent Iraqis, was himself a weapon of mass destruction, said Shaik Fadil Alsahlani of the Al- Khoei Foundation, an international Islamic charitable organization for Shia Muslim communities. Alsahlani spoke at a memorial service for the victims of Saddam Hussein’s regime at George Washington University Aug. 2.

Boles takes over 3rd COSCOM



Courtesy of U.S. Army
Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles accepts the 3rd Corps Support Command’s colors from Lt. Gen. Ricardo S. Sanchez, commander of Combined Joint Task Force 7, during the 3rd COSCOM’s change of command ceremony Thursday.

V Corps and Combined Joint Task Force 7 commander, Lt. Gen. Ricardo S. Sanchez, spoke during the ceremony in which he acknowledged 3rd COSCOM’s many achievements under Fletcher’s command.

“The challenges were many — the results have been magnificent,” said Sanchez.

Boles comes to COSCOM after serving as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Ammunition at the U.S. Army Materiel Command.

Stars and Stripes

LOGISTICAL SUPPORT AREA ANACONDA, Iraq — Soldiers of the Army’s only forward-deployed corps support command gathered Thursday to welcome their new leader.

Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles took over command of V Corps’ 3rd Corps Support Command from Brig. Gen. Charles W. Fletcher, who heads to Washington, D.C., to work as the Army Deputy Chief of Staff, Logistics.

Some items such as cleaning rags were unnecessarily being treated as hazardous waste. In other cases, recyclable wastes such as used motor oil and antifreeze were being mixed, which prevented their



As the team set about finding other alternative products for soaps, solvents, lubricants, spray paints and office supplies, they discovered that their regular purchasing center did not have a way to provide these alternatives. The answer: Buy in bulk and stock it themselves. It also became clear that to fully streamline hazardous waste management, the school needed a central processing facility that could prescreen products, and track them from the point of issue to disposal.

Ordinance Mechanical Maintenance School reduces hazardous materials costs continued

In 1997, all these initiatives culminated in the establishment of a one-stop-shop, or “hazmart,” to stock hazardous materials, recyclables, rechargeable batteries and bio-based products such as corn oil-based hand cleaner. Burkins manages the facility.

Today, the two-person staff at the hazmart does far more than bar code, distribute and track materials. They select and prescreen chemical products, find environmentally friendly alternatives whenever possible and enforce the school’s hazardous materials policy. They also teach classes about handling hazardous materials, inspect buildings and respond to spills.

“With the hazmart, no one [soldiers or staff] outside my office has to worry about compliance with the standard,” Katz said. “We do it all.”

The school now boasts an effective hazardous materials and waste management operation, consistent with Armywide objectives. It eliminated all 61 satellite accumulation sites and reduced the number of hazardous material product lines in its inventory by 30.6 percent. The school reports a 22 percent annual savings overall on the more than 400 product lines managed by the hazmart.

For those in the business of managing hazardous materials and hazardous waste, the school’s program stands as a positive example, said David Zuckerman, hazardous material management program manager at the U.S. Army Environmental Center.

“This facility and their operation demonstrates exactly the type of hazardous materials business practices we are trying to establish and promote Armywide,” he said. “If we can show definitive benefits from better management of hazardous materials and hazardous waste, it will be all the easier to expand these benefits.”

Pollution Prevention Program Manager Doenee Moscato, of the U.S. Army Environmental Center, agreed.

“A well-managed hazmart, as operated by Debbie and Keith, that combines and centralizes the logistical aspects of waste management and hazardous material procurement is hands down the most effective and efficient way to prevent pollution at the installation or facility level.”

The list of program accomplishments at the school includes:

- Recycling all batteries, motor oil and antifreeze
- Prescreening of all products with a list of 12 criteria that includes “no extremely hazardous substances” and “no toxic chemicals”
- Locating and ordering dozens of eco-friendly products such as scrubbing pads made from walnut shells, poison-free bug spray and recycled mop heads
- Eliminating industrial wastewater from paint removal and radiator repair by putting equipment and processes into place that filter and reuse the same water
- Decreasing air emissions by using products that do not release as many volatile organic compounds into the air
- Purchasing in bulk, and distributing cleaners and other

products in smaller, labeled containers and spray bottles

The key to success, according to Katz: “Adopting the philosophy of avoidance and convincing people that doing the environmental thing can be of a benefit to the business.”



U.S. soldiers inspect a burned out car on a highway leading from the Baghdad airport, Sunday, Aug. 3, 2003, in Baghdad, Iraq. Soldiers say that the vehicle was driven by a United Nations employee who was injured after his car hit a land mine in the road returning from the airport. (AP Photo/Samir Mezban)



The first of the Economic Community of West African States Mission in Liberia (ECOMIL) Nigerian peacekeeping troops arrive by UN helicopter at Robertsfield airport near the Liberian capital Monrovia Monday Aug 4, 2003. (AP Photo/Ben Curtis)



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